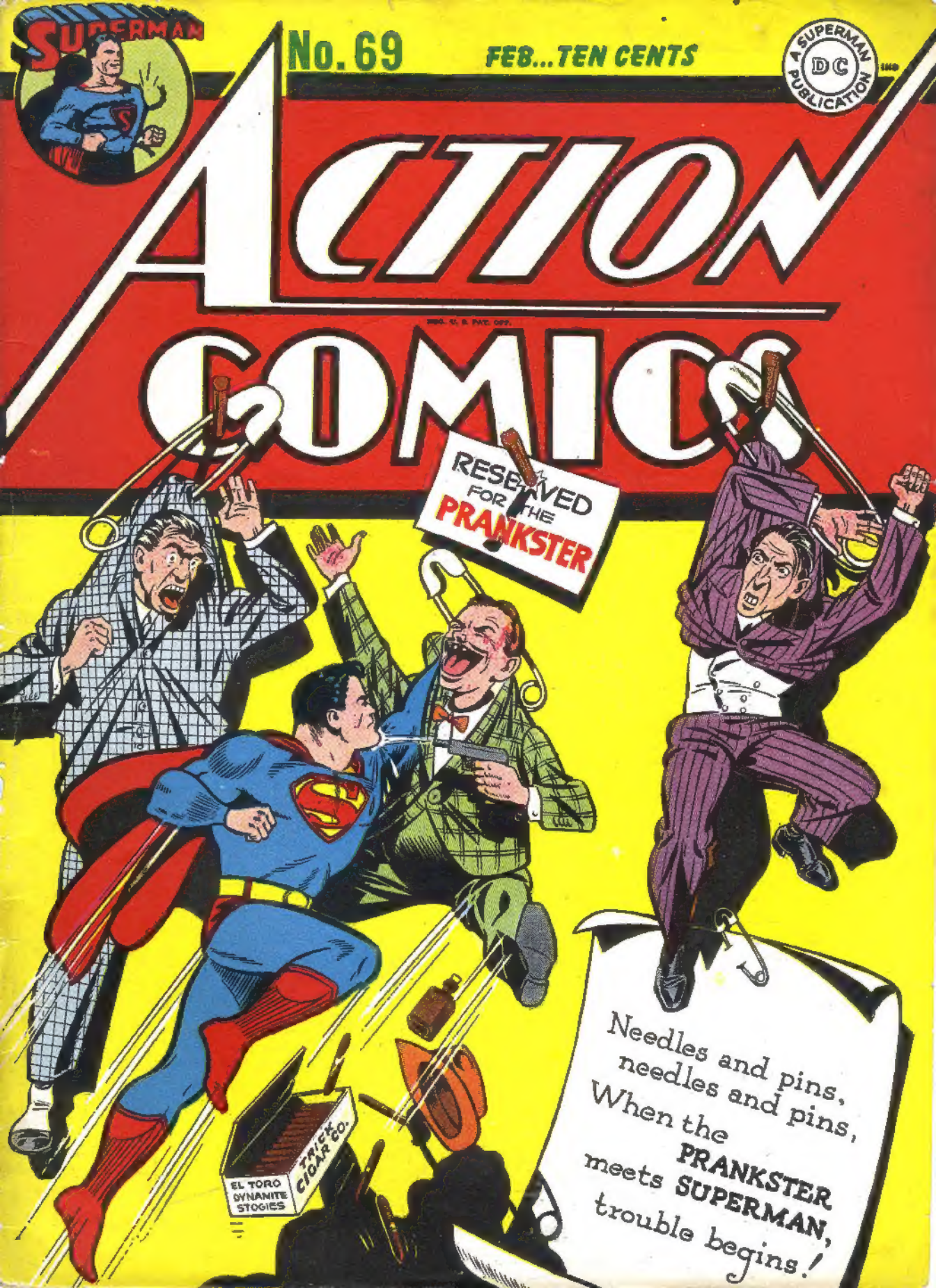
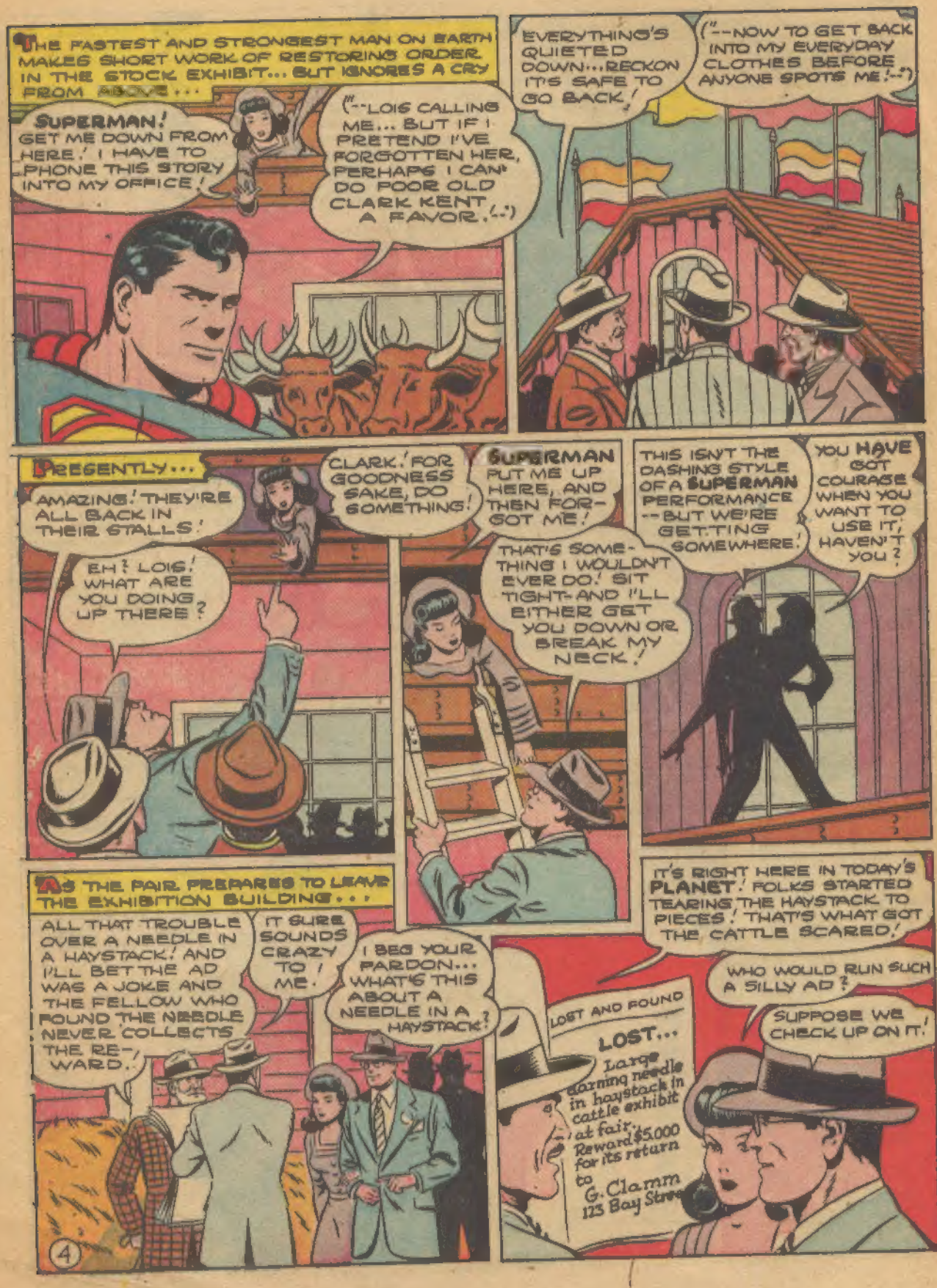
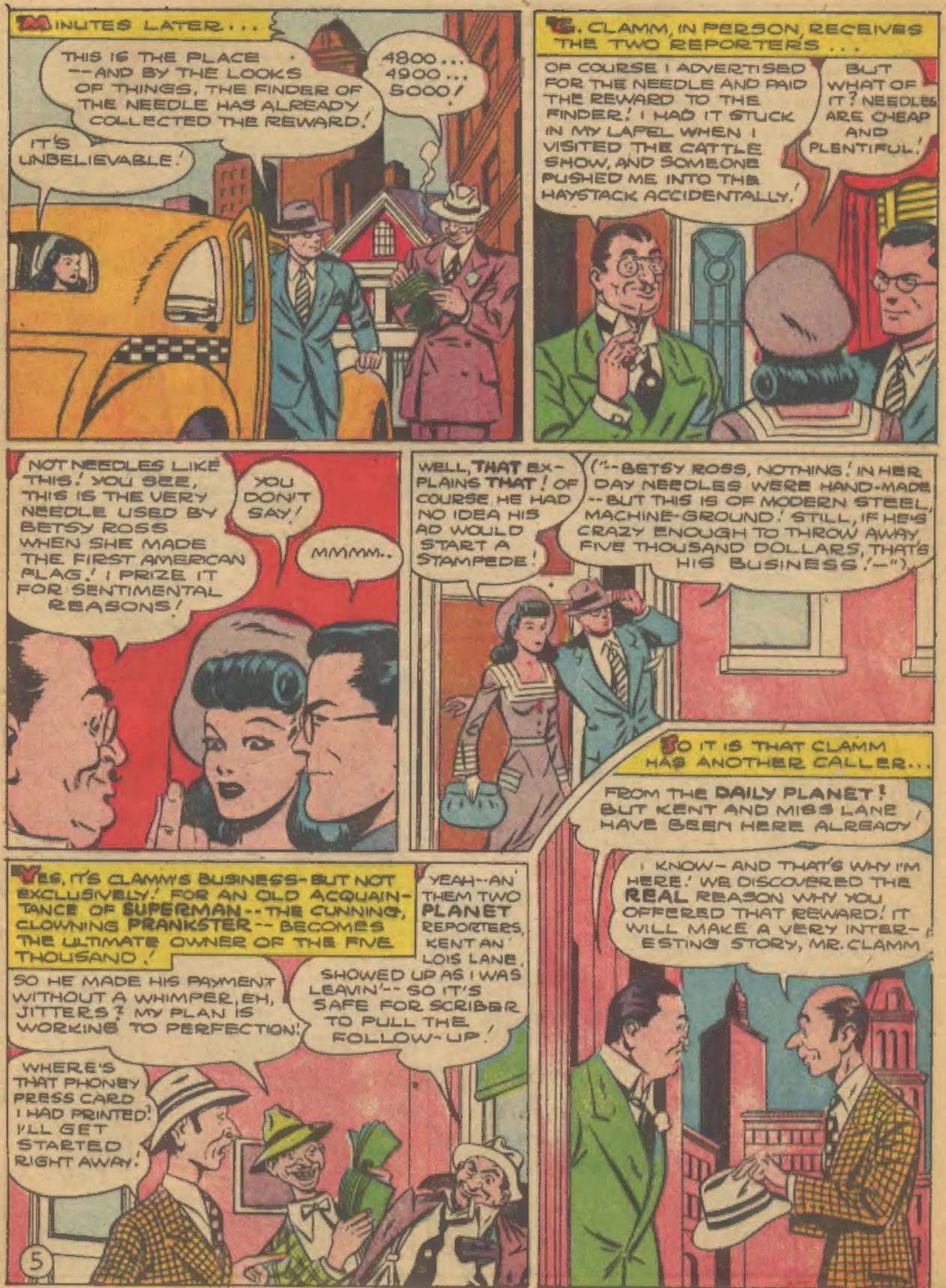

SUPERMAN
No. 69
FEB...TEN CENTS
A SUPERMAN DC PUBLICATION
ACTION COMICS
RESERVED FOR THE PRANKSTER
EL TORO DYNAMITE STOGIES
TRICK CIGAR CO.
Needles and pins, needles and pins, When the PRANKSTER meets SUPERMAN, trouble begins!

SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
SUNDAY – SPORTS – EXTR
YOPLAN
LOST AND FOUND ◦ HELP WANTE
LOST...
WHAT HAVE YOU?
REWARD...
HOW MUCH HAVE YOU?
--THE PRANKSTER
NEEDLES AND PINS, NEEDLES AND PINS--
WHEN THE PRANKSTER MEETS SUPERMAN, TROUBLE BEGINS!
AND SO, BRINGING AN ANCIENT NONSENSE RHYME UP TO DATE, WE GET AN APPROPRIATE INTRODUCTION TO A YARN THAT SEEMS TO HAVE NEITHER RHYME NOR REASON TO START WITH! WHY SHOULD SUPPOSEDLY SANE PEOPLE PAY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS FOR COMMONPLACE ARTICLES LIKE PINS AND NEEDLES? IT TAKES THE LIGHTNING-SWIFT WITS OF SUPERMAN TO FIT THE JIGSAW CLUES TOGETHER AS HE MATCHES WITS ONCE AGAIN WITH THAT WHIMSICAL WIZARD OF WHACKY CRIMES, THE PRANKSTER, TO SMASH THE AMAZING PLOT BEHIND... "THE LOST-AND-FOUND MYSTERY!"

COVERING THE STATE FAIR IS A PEACEFUL JOB FOR THE PLANET'S ACE HEADLINE HUNTERS.
...AND SUPERMAN HIMSELF COULDN'T LIFT HER!
SHE'D CERTAINLY STRAIN HIS DIGNITY, IF NOT HIS BACK!
I WONDER?..
BUT AS MATTERS TURN OUT, IT ISN'T AS PEACEFUL A DAY AS ONE WOULD EXPECT!
THE CATTLE ARE STAMPEDING!
TROUBLE AT THE LIVESTOCK EXHIBIT, CLARK! IT MAY BE A BIG STORY!
NOT SO FAST! ("--IF THOSE CATTLE GET LOOSE IN THIS CROWD, A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL BE HURT! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!--")
DARTING BETWEEN TWO MIDWAY TENTS, CLARK KENT RIDS HIMSELF OF HIS CONSERVATIVE OUTER GARB...
("-- HERE'S WHERE SUPERMAN TURNS COWBOY!--")
MEANWHILE...
LET ME THROUGH!.. OH!... I CAN'T MAKE IT-- I'M FALLING--
YOU'RE GOIN' THE WRONG WAY, LADY! THEM CATTLE WILL KILL YOU!
HELP! THEY'RE BEHIND ME!
MY HAT! IT COST FIVE DOLLARS!
WHAT DO I CARE ABOUT YOUR HAT WHEN THERE'S NEWS AHEAD?
ON THE HEELS OF THE CROWD, WITH THUNDERING HOOFS AND TOSSING HORNS, COME GREAT BEASTS GOADED BY TERROR INTO A MAD RAMPAGE!
I HAVEN'T A CHANCE-- AND FOR ONCE, SUPERMAN ISN'T AROUND TO SAVE ME!
SUPERMAN!
BUT ABRUPTLY...
GUESS AGAIN, MISS LANE!... BACK UP, YOU FOUR-LEGGED BLITZ-BUGGIES!
2

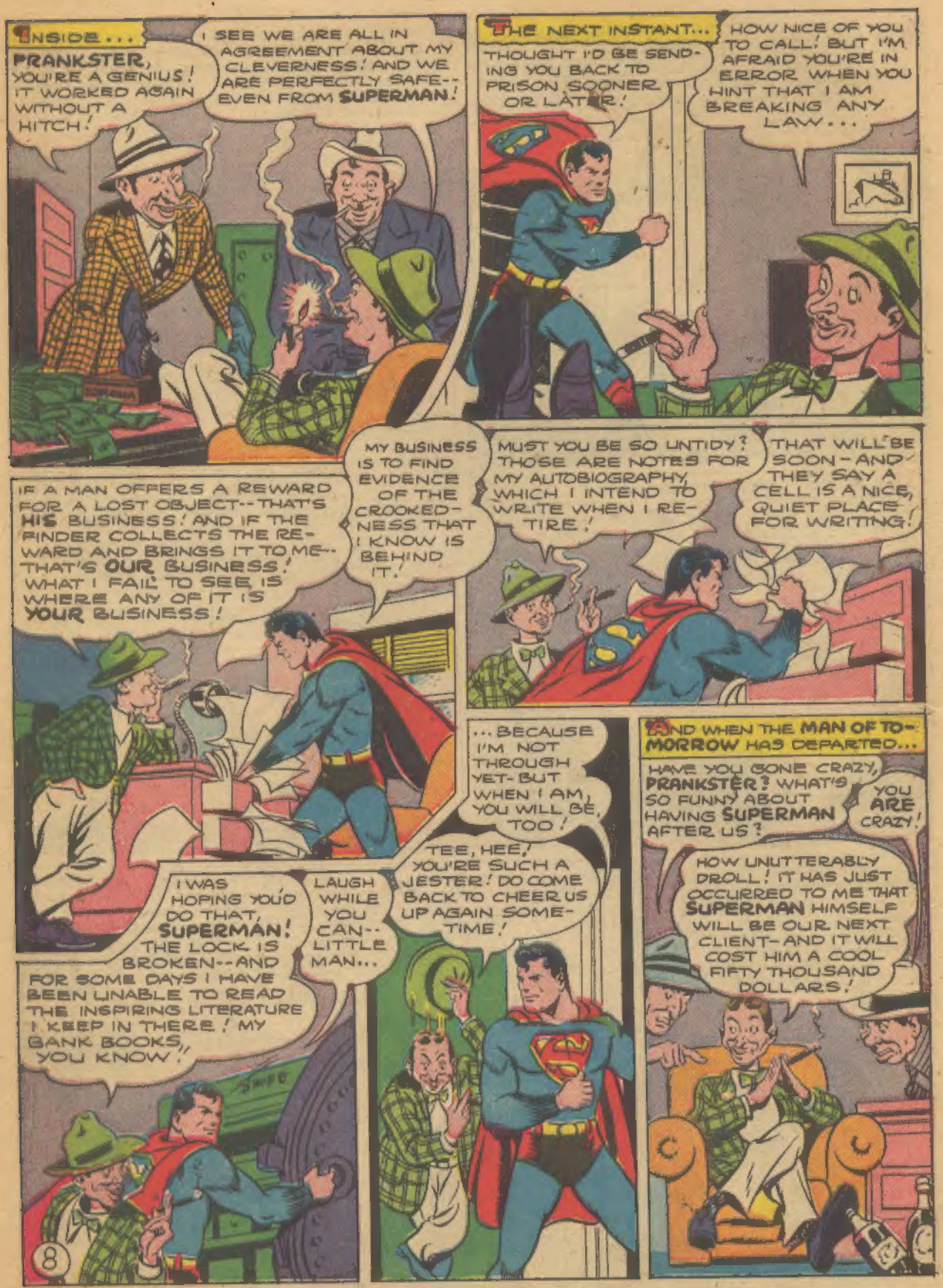
RIPPING A TEMPORARY LAMPPOST FROM ITS MOORINGS, SUPERMAN FORCES THE BEWILDERED STEERS INTO THE EXHIBITION BARN...
I SAID, BACK UP!
WHAT A MAN- AND WHAT A STORY!
NOW THAT THEY'RE LOCKED INSIDE, I'LL GIVE YOU A GRAND-STAND SEAT FOR THE BIG ROUNDUP!
THAT'LL BE THRILLING!
PERCHED ON A GIRDER BRACING THE HUGE BARN, LOIS LOOKS DOWN ON A MILLING, BELLOWING MASS OF BLOODED CATTLE...
IF ONLY I HAD A CAMERA! WORDS COULDN'T EVER DESCRIBE THIS!
IT MAY BE ARTISTIC-- BUT THOSE CATTLE WILL MAIM AND KILL EACH OTHER IF I DON'T GET THEM BACK IN THEIR STALLS!
NEEDLE-TIPPED HORNS AND SLASHING HOOFS HOLD NO TERROR FOR THE MAN OF STEEL...
IN YOU GO... HUH?... SO YOU THINK YOU'RE TOUGH!
YOU DON'T SEEM TO REALIZE IT, BUT I'M DOING THIS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!
3


THE FASTEST AND STRONGEST MAN ON EARTH MAKES SHORT WORK OF RESTORING ORDER IN THE STOCK EXHIBIT... BUT IGNORES A CRY FROM ABOVE...
SUPERMAN! GET ME DOWN FROM HERE! I HAVE TO PHONE THIS STORY INTO MY OFFICE!
("--LOIS CALLING ME... BUT IF I PRETEND I'VE FORGOTTEN HER, PERHAPS I CAN DO POOR OLD CLARK KENT A FAVOR.--")
EVERYTHING'S QUIETED DOWN...RECKON IT'S SAFE TO GO BACK!
("--NOW TO GET BACK INTO MY EVERYDAY CLOTHES BEFORE ANYONE SPOTS ME!--")
PRESENTLY...
AMAZING! THEY'RE ALL BACK IN THEIR STALLS!
EH? LOIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?
CLARK! FOR GOODNESS SAKE, DO SOMETHING!
SUPERMAN PUT ME UP HERE, AND THEN FORGOT ME!
THAT'S SOMETHING I WOULDN'T EVER DO! SIT TIGHT-AND I'LL EITHER GET YOU DOWN OR BREAK MY NECK!
THIS ISN'T THE DASHING STYLE OF A SUPERMAN PERFORMANCE --BUT WE'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE!
YOU HAVE GOT COURAGE WHEN YOU WANT TO USE IT, HAVEN'T YOU?
AS THE PAIR PREPARES TO LEAVE THE EXHIBITION BUILDING...
ALL THAT TROUBLE OVER A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK! AND I'LL BET THE AD WAS A JOKE AND THE FELLOW WHO FOUND THE NEEDLE NEVER COLLECTS THE REWARD.
IT SURE SOUNDS CRAZY TO ME.
I BEG YOUR PARDON... WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK?
IT'S RIGHT HERE IN TODAY'S PLANET! FOLKS STARTED TEARING THE HAYSTACK TO PIECES! THAT'S WHAT GOT THE CATTLE SCARED!
WHO WOULD RUN SUCH A SILLY AD?
SUPPOSE WE CHECK UP ON IT!
LOST AND FOUND
LOST... Large darning needle in haystack in cattle exhibit at fair. Reward $5.000 for its return to G. Clamm 123 Bay Stree
4


MINUTES LATER...
THIS IS THE PLACE --AND BY THE LOOKS OF THINGS, THE FINDER OF THE NEEDLE HAS ALREADY COLLECTED THE REWARD!
4800... 4900... 5000!
IT'S UNBELIEVABLE!
MR. CLAMM, IN PERSON, RECEIVES THE TWO REPORTERS...
OF COURSE I ADVERTISED FOR THE NEEDLE AND PAID THE REWARD TO THE FINDER! I HAD IT STUCK IN MY LAPEL WHEN I VISITED THE CATTLE SHOW, AND SOMEONE PUSHED ME INTO THE HAYSTACK ACCIDENTALLY!
BUT WHAT OF IT? NEEDLES ARE CHEAP AND PLENTIFUL!
NOT NEEDLES LIKE THIS! YOU SEE, THIS IS THE VERY NEEDLE USED BY BETSY ROSS WHEN SHE MADE THE FIRST AMERICAN FLAG! I PRIZE IT FOR SENTIMENTAL REASONS!
YOU DON'T SAY!
MMMM..
WELL, THAT EXPLAINS THAT! OF COURSE HE HAD NO IDEA HIS AD WOULD START A STAMPEDE!
("--BETSY ROSS, NOTHING! IN HER DAY NEEDLES WERE HAND-MADE --BUT THIS IS OF MODERN STEEL, MACHINE-GROUND! STILL, IF HE'S CRAZY ENOUGH TO THROW AWAY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS, THAT'S HIS BUSINESS!--").
SO IT IS THAT CLAMM HAS ANOTHER CALLER...
FROM THE DAILY PLANET! BUT KENT AND MISS LANE HAVE BEEN HERE ALREADY!
I KNOW--AND THAT'S WHY I'M HERE! WE DISCOVERED THE REAL REASON WHY YOU OFFERED THAT REWARD! IT WILL MAKE A VERY INTERESTING STORY, MR. CLAMM
YES, IT'S CLAMM'S BUSINESS--BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY! FOR AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE OF SUPERMAN--THE CUNNING, CLOWNING PRANKSTER--BECOMES THE ULTIMATE OWNER OF THE FIVE THOUSAND!
YEAH--AN' THEM TWO PLANET REPORTERS, KENT AN' LOIS LANE, SHOWED UP AS I WAS LEAVIN'--SO IT'S SAFE FOR SCRIBER TO PULL THE FOLLOW-UP!
SO HE MADE HIS PAYMENT WITHOUT A WHIMPER, EH, JITTERS? MY PLAN IS WORKING TO PERFECTION!
WHERE'S THAT PHONEY PRESS CARD I HAD PRINTED? I'LL GET STARTED RIGHT AWAY!
5

NO! NO! YOU MUSTN'T PRINT IT! THINK OF MY REPUTATION! DO YOU WANT TO RUIN ME?
NOT NECESSARILY.. AS A MATTER OF FACT, WE TALKED IT OVER AND DECIDED TO FORGET IT-PROVIDING YOU COUGH UP ANOTHER FIVE THOUSAND FOR US!
NO USE TALKING, THE PRANKSTER IS A SLY CUSTOMER--AND HE KNOWS IT!
HE SQUAWKED A LITTLE, BUT HE PAID! AND HE'LL PAY AGAIN IF WE PUT THE PRESSURE ON!
NO, MY DIM-WITTED FRIEND! PUTTING ON THE PRESSURE PUTS PEOPLE LIKE YOU IN JAIL--WHILE REALLY BRILLIANT PERSONS, LIKE MYSELF, THRIVE ON QUICK, BUT SURE TURNOVERS!
AFTER ALL, TEN THOUSAND A DAY OUGHT TO BE ENOUGH FOR ANYONE! THINK OF IT--OVER THREE MILLION A YEAR!... BY THE WAY, HAS TOMORROW'S AD BEEN PLACED YET?
I TOOK CARE OF IT BOSS!
SO, HEADING THE "LOST AND FOUND" COLUMN OF NEXT DAY'S PLANET, WE FIND THIS PROVOCATIVE ADVERTISEMENT..
DAILY PLANET
HELP LOST AND FOUND
LOST--
Bent safety pin on Commercial Avenue between 15th and 16th Stree
$5,000 REWARD.
J. Roger,
234 Plank Street
OTHER EYES HAVE ALSO SEEN THE REWARD OFFER, AND COMMERCIAL AVENUE LITERALLY CRAWLS WITH TREASURE SEEKERS!
LOOK, CLARK.. ANOTHER AD, AS SILLY AS THE FIRST!
YES, AND I'M TO GET A STORY ABOUT IT, WHILE YOU SPEND THE AFTERNOON AT THE ROCKABILT LAWN PARTY!
EXTRA! DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN HALTS STAMPEDE CAUSED BY $5,000 NEEDLE!
WHAT'S THIS?.. ONLY A HAIR-PIN!
(--MAYBE I OUGHT TO START LOOKING--BUT I STILL THINK IT'S A GAG OF SOME KIND!--")
SUDDENLY
I'VE FOUND IT! I GET THE REWARD!
("--WHAT'S THIS?.. I WAS WATCHING THAT FELLOW, AND I COULD PRACTICALLY SWEAR HE TOOK THAT BENT SAFETY PIN OUT OF HIS POCKET!--")
I'VE FOLLOWED HIM STRAIGHT TO THE ADDRESS GIVEN IN THE AD--AND I MIGHT AS WELL FOLLOW HIM STRAIGHT IN!
6

ON THE HOME OF J. ROGER...
YES, THIS IS THE ONE... DID I COUNT THE MONEY CORRECTLY?
IT'S ALL HERE! THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY!
MR. ROGER, DO YOU MIND TELLING ME WHY YOU VALUE THAT PARTICULAR PIN SO HIGHLY?
NOT AT ALL! IT SAVED MY LIFE ONCE, WHEN I WAS LOST IN THE WOODS WHILE HUNTING! I HAD NO MATCHES--BUT BY STRIKING THE STEEL PIN AGAINST A STONE, I STARTED A SIGNAL FIRE AND WAS RESCUED!
I SEE...("--THAT PIN IS MADE OF BRASS--NOT STEEL! AND IF HE WAS HUNTING, HE'D HAVE HAD A GUN AND CARTRIDGES TO SIGNAL WITH!--")
AS CLARK LEAVES THE HOUSE...
("--WONDER WHO THAT IS? HE HAS A PRESS CARD IN HIS HATBAND, BUT HE'S NOBODY I KNOW--AND I THOUGHT I KNEW EVERY NEWSPAPERMAN IN METROPOLIS!--")
MOMENTS LATER...
("--HMM...HE'S LEAVING NOW. THERE'S SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON, AND I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS!--")
PRESS
WHAT! YOU HAVE THE NERVE TO COME BACK? WELL, I'M NOT PAYING ANOTHER CENT! I THOUGHT THE PLANET WAS A RESPECTABLE PAPER--NOT A CHEAP EXTORTION SHEET!
WHY--ER--SO IT IS! IF YOU'LL JUST GIVE ME A FEW DETAILS, PERHAPS I CAN--
I WON'T TELL YOU A THING!
SLAM
("--WELL! LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO GET MY INFORMATION DIRECT FROM THAT MAKE-BELIEVE REPORTER!--")
("--THERE HE GOES INTO THAT TUMBLEDOWN TENEMENT... TIME FOR ME TO BECOME SUPERMAN AGAIN!--")
7


INSIDE...
PRANKSTER, YOU'RE A GENIUS! IT WORKED AGAIN WITHOUT A HITCH!
I SEE WE ARE ALL IN AGREEMENT ABOUT MY CLEVERNESS! AND WE ARE PERFECTLY SAFE--EVEN FROM SUPERMAN!
THE NEXT INSTANT...
THOUGHT I'D BE SENDING YOU BACK TO PRISON SOONER OR LATER!
HOW NICE OF YOU TO CALL! BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'RE IN ERROR WHEN YOU HINT THAT I AM BREAKING ANY LAW...
IF A MAN OFFERS A REWARD FOR A LOST OBJECT--THAT'S HIS BUSINESS! AND IF THE FINDER COLLECTS THE REWARD AND BRINGS IT TO ME--THAT'S OUR BUSINESS! WHAT I FAIL TO SEE IS WHERE ANY OF IT IS YOUR BUSINESS!
MY BUSINESS IS TO FIND EVIDENCE OF THE CROOKEDNESS THAT I KNOW IS BEHIND IT!
MUST YOU BE SO UNTIDY? THOSE ARE NOTES FOR MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY, WHICH I INTEND TO WRITE WHEN I RETIRE!
THAT WILL BE SOON--AND THEY SAY A CELL IS A NICE, QUIET PLACE FOR WRITING!
I WAS HOPING YOU'D DO THAT, SUPERMAN! THE LOCK IS BROKEN--AND FOR SOME DAYS I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO READ THE INSPIRING LITERATURE I KEEP IN THERE! MY BANK BOOKS, YOU KNOW!
LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN--LITTLE MAN...
TEE, HEE! YOU'RE SUCH A JESTER! DO COME BACK TO CHEER US UP AGAIN SOMETIME!
...BECAUSE I'M NOT THROUGH YET--BUT WHEN I AM, YOU WILL BE, TOO!
AND WHEN THE MAN OF TOMORROW HAS DEPARTED...
HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY, PRANKSTER? WHAT'S SO FUNNY ABOUT HAVING SUPERMAN AFTER US?
YOU ARE CRAZY!
HOW UNUTTERABLY DROLL! IT HAS JUST OCCURRED TO ME THAT SUPERMAN HIMSELF WILL BE OUR NEXT CLIENT--AND IT WILL COST HIM A COOL FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS!
8

THAT EVENING, AS LOIS LEAVES THE PLANET FOR HOME...
YES, I'M MISS LANE... WH-WHY- WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
YOU DON'T KNOW IT, SISTER, BUT YOU'RE LOST.
AN' FINDIN' YOU IS GONNA BE WORTH PLENTY!
SHORTLY...
DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU, MISS LANE! IT'S LIKE GETTING MONEY FROM HOME-- OR SOMEWHERE! WON'T YOU BE SEATED?
YOU GRINNING APE- SUPERMAN WILL BE AFTER YOU FOR THIS!
EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE COUNTING ON!
NEXT MORNING, AS CLARK KENT ARRIVES AT HIS OFFICE BRIGHT AND EARLY...
THE COMPOSING ROOM JUST SENT UP THIS PROOF OF AN AD TO APPEAR IN TODAY'S PAPER! WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?
WHY, THE SNEAKING RATS!
FOUND-- Lois Lane, who will be lost again forever unless SUPERMAN pays a reward of $50,000 and promises to mind his own business in the future. --P.
I PHONED HER APARTMENT... SHE ISN'T THERE, AND NO ONE SAW HER LAST NIGHT!... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO THE POLICE. IF SHE'S BEEN KIDNAPPED, IT'S A JOB FOR THE AUTHORITIES!
SECONDS LATER...
BUT I'LL TAKE A ROUNDABOUT WAY TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS-- AND HAVE THE PRANKSTER IN TOW WHEN I ARRIVE!
BUT NO JEERING HOST AWAITS SUPERMAN AT THE PRANKSTER'S HEADQUARTERS, HOWEVER--NOR ANY CLUE AT ALL, EXCEPT---
A NOTE ADDRESSED TO ME!
MY DEAR SUPERMAN: LEAVE THE $50,000 AND YOUR WRITTEN PROMISE ON THE DESK, AND MISS LANE WILL BE BACK IN HER OFFICE WITHIN HALF AN HOUR! OTHERWISE -- BUT WHY SPEAK OF UNPLEASANT THINGS? --THE PRANKSTER.
ONCE MORE THE AMAZING X-RAY VISION OF THE MAN OF TOMORROW IS CALLED UPON...
("-- IF THE PRANKSTER CAN PRODUCE HER IN HALF AN HOUR, SHE CAN'T BE FAR AWAY... IF ONLY I COULD LOCATE HER--")
9

("-- NOT IN ANY OF THE NEARBY BUILDINGS... AND NOT DOWN BELOW... UNLESS --")
("-- THAT VAULT, OR WHATEVER IT IS -- MY X-RAY EYES CAN'T PIERCE IT! AND YET THERE MUST BE SOMETHING INSIDE!--")
DOWN INTO THE EARTH GOES SUPERMAN, BORING THROUGH CONCRETE, ROCK AND EARTH WITH EXPRESS-TRAIN SPEED!
("--AND ANYTHING I CAN'T SEE THROUGH MAKES ME CURIOUS!--")
DEEP UNDER THE TEEMING STREETS OF METROPOLIS, THE PRANKSTER'S MOCKING LAUGHTER ECHOES WITHIN SOUNDPROOF WALLS!
I DO HOPE SUPERMAN COMPLIES WITH OUR WISHES, MISS LANE. I SHOULD HATE TO HAVE TO KEEP YOU IN MY SECRET VAULT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!
YOU'RE A BIGGER FOOL THAN I THOUGHT, IF YOU EXPECT TO HIDE FROM SUPERMAN MERELY BY BURYING YOURSELF!
AH, YOU UNDERRATE MY INGENUITY! I KNOW ALL ABOUT SUPERMAN'S X-RAY EYES -- AND SO I HAVE SHEATHED THIS COZY ROOM WITH THICK, SOLID LEAD-WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, RESISTS THE PASSAGE OF X-RAYS! HA, HA!
FOR ONCE, SUPERMAN HAS RUN UP AGAINST SOMEONE SMARTER THAN HIMSELF! HAW, HAW!
BUT SUDDENLY, THE LAUGHTER IS SMOTHERED BY THE THUNDER AND SQUEAL OF TEARING LEAD AND STEEL!
YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR WORK, MISS LANE, IF YOU HANG AROUND HERE MUCH LONGER!
IT'S HIM! WE AIN'T GOT A CHANCE!
SUPERMAN!
HO HO-HO-! HUH?

YOU'RE WASTING LEAD, JUST AS THE PRANKSTER DID WHEN HE BUILT THIS VAULT.
THE BULLETS ARE BOUNCING OFF!
LOOK AT THEIR FACES! WHAT A JOKE ON THEM!
THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD... SOME OF THOSE BULLETS MIGHT BOUNCE BACK AND HURT YOU!
YOU CAN HIT THEM AGAIN FOR ME, SUPERMAN!
AND AS FOR YOU, PRANKSTER -- IT'S TOO BAD YOU'RE NOT BIG ENOUGH TO PUNCH AROUND.
ON THE CONTRARY, I CONSIDER IT VERY FORTUNATE! TEE, HEE!
NOW LET'S HEAR YOU GGGLE!
I'M LAUGHING WITH TEARS IN MY EYES
HOW INTERESTING! MATERIAL FOR BLACKMAILING HUNDREDS OF PROMINENT CITIZENS -- THE LITTLE MISTAKES AND INDISCRETIONS THAT MIGHT PROVE SO EMBARRASSING, THEY'D GLADLY PAY TO KEEP THEM FROM BEING MADE PUBLIC!
AND NOW THEY'RE EMBARRASSING ONLY TO ME, ISN'T THAT FUNNY?
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE NEEDLES AND PINS, SUPERMAN?
THE PRANKSTER WAS TOO SMART TO COLLECT "BLACKMAIL" -- HE HAD HIS MEN COLLECT "REWARDS" FOR THOSE ADS FOR "LOST" ARTICLES! AND HE DELIBERATELY DESIGNED THOSE ADS TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE NEWSPAPERS!
BUT WHY?
BECAUSE AFTER THE LEGITIMATE REPORTERS HAD CALLED, HE SENT ONE OF HIS OWN MEN, POSING AS A REPORTER, WHO PRETENDED TO HAVE LEARNED THE REAL SECRET -- AND COLLECTED ALL OVER AGAIN FOR HUSHING IT UP!
AND A BRILLIANT SCHEME IT WAS -- EVEN IF IT DIDN'T WORK!

I'M REALLY DOING THE CITY A FAVOR! THAT TENEMENT WAS CONDEMNED BY THE CITY MONTHS AGO--BUT THE OWNER HAS NEGLECTED HAVING IT TORN DOWN!
ALL HE'LL HAVE TO DO NOW IS SWEEP UP THE LITTER!
WHA--? SUPERMAN!
STOP BY POLICE HEADQUARTERS, WILL YOU, AND UNLOAD THIS BOX OF JAILBIRDS?
HOW CAN I THANK YOU, SUPERMAN?
BY TRYING TO KEEP OUT OF DANGER IN THE FUTURE, MISS LANE!.. UP UP AND AWAY-Y-Y!
GOODBYE--AND GOOD LUCK!
WITHIN THE VAULT, THE PRANKSTER IS HAVING THE LAST LAUGH--OR, AT LEAST HIS LAST LAUGH FOR A LONG TIME!
A GOOD THING I HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR, HA, HA, HA! I CAN JUST PICTURE THE WARDEN LAUGHING WHEN I TELL HIM WHAT A JOKE SUPERMAN PLAYED ON US!
AND SO, AFTER A BRIEF SIDE-EXCURSION, CLARK KENT ARRIVES BREATHLESSLY AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
SERGEANT! SEND OUT AN ALARM IMMEDIATELY! LOIS LANE HAS BEEN--HUH?... WHY--WHY THERE YOU ARE, LOIS!
YES I'VE BEEN BUSY SOLVING THE NEEDLE-AND-PIN MYSTERY AND ROUNDING UP A FEW CROOKS--WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM SUPERMAN!
THE PRANKSTER--ALL BANGED UP! HA, HA, HA! FUNNIEST SIGHT I'VE SEEN IN WEEKS!
I FAIL TO SEE ANYTHING AMUSING ABOUT IT!
MAYBE NOT, SHRIMP BUT IT WAS FUN FOR THE REST OF US
THE END.

VIGILANTE
A MIDGET IN STATURE, BUT A GIANT IN CRIMINAL INTELLECT--THAT'S THE DUBIOUS, AS DEADLY A LITTLE SATAN AS EVER HARRIED SOCIETY! NOW HIS EVER-RESTLESS MIND TACKLES THE PROBLEM OF BOARDING AND ROBBING THE FASTEST AND MOST BURGLAR-PROOF MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION KNOWN TO MODERN TIMES--AND SOLVES THE STAGGERING PUZZLE! YES, THE RICHEST LOOT OF ALL GOES TO THIS LETHAL UNDERWORLD MOLE...UNTIL THE MIGHTY VIGILANTE MOVES INTO ACTION AND RIDES HERD ON...
"THE LITTLE MEN WHO WERE THERE!"
By MORT and JOE

TO THE UNOBSERVANT EYE, NOTHING COULD BE MORE ROUTINE THAN LOADING A MAIL CAR...
MINE ARE DYING OF BOREDOM! SAME BLOOM'N THING EVERY DAY--- NOTHING EVER HAPPENS!
BOY, I CAN'T WAIT TILL I'M OLD ENOUGH TO RETIRE! MY DOGS ARE KILLING ME!
BUT DON'T LET APPEARANCES DECEIVE YOU!
EVERYTHING HAS BEEN CHECKED, SIR! ALL OKAY!
GOOD! TAKE HER AWAY, GEORGE!
STEEL WHEELS CLACK SPEEDILY OVER THE SHINING RAILS AS THE MAIL TRAIN ROARS INTO THE OPEN COUNTRY! AND INSIDE, ALL IS QUIET EFFICIENCY---
COLUMBUS.. CLEVELAND.. CINCINNATI.. DAYTON..
SUDDENLY--TURMOIL FROM NOWHERE!
TH--THE DUMMY! HOW'D YOU GET IN HERE?
LOCKED DOORS AND WINDOWLESS FREIGHT CARS DON'T STOP THE DUMMY, MY WITLESS FR END!
GRAB THE REGISTERED LETTERS FIRST! THOSE ARE THE ONES THAT USUALLY CONTAIN CURRENCY!
SOON AS I MAIL THIS SPECIAL DELIVERY!
TENSE MOMENTS LATER--
DE PLACE IS PICKED CLEANER'N A TURKEY AFTER THANKSGIVING!
EXCELLENT! NOW PULL THE EMERGENCY STOP CORD AND THE TRAIN WILL GRIND TO AN INVOLUNTARY HALT!
FAREWELL, FOOLS! IF YOU HAPPEN TO SEE THE VIGILANTE, TELL HIM EVERYTHING THAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN-- BUT NOT ALWAYS THE WAY IT WENT UP!
WE'LL GET WORD TO H.M. ALL RIGHT, YOU THIEVING JACKANAPES!
SCRAK!
12

SHORTLY AFTER, AS GREG SANDERS--THE PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR--FINISHES HIS POPULAR PROGRAM AT THE RADIO STATION . . .
--"WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN, BUT NOT ALWAYS THE WAY IT WENT UP--" HMM! I'LL CONTACT THE VIGILANTE AND GIVE HIM THE DUMMY'S MESSAGE RIGHT AWAY!
THANKS, MR. SANDERS! HE'S ABOUT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HANDLE THAT MURDEROUS MIDGET!
OUTSIDE THE STUDIO, GREG IS MET BY HIS YOUNG CHINATOWN PAL--
--AND THAT'S THE STORY, STUFF! WHAT'S MORE, WE'RE ACCEPTIN' THE DUMMY'S CHALLENGE!
SURE, SURE! BUT WHAT'S IT MEAN?
A QUICK CHANGE--
WELL, WHAT'S THE MOST COMMON THING THAT GOES UP BUT ALWAYS HAS TO COME DOWN?
A PLANE!
RIGHT! AND WHEN YUH GO UP IN A PLANE BUT COME DOWN IN A DIFFERENT WAY, HOW DO YOU COME DOWN?
BY PARACHUTE! I GET IT! WE'RE HEADIN' FOR THE AIRPORT!
IN A MATTER OF MINUTES---
VALUABLE SHIPMENT? I SHOULD SAY SO! THAT PLANE IS TAKING OFF SOON WITH A LOAD OF INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS TO WAR PLANTS OUT ON THE COAST!
HOLY COW! LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE RIGHT, VIC!
HEY, HOLD ON! WHAT'M I GETTIN' EXCITED ABOUT? WHAT IF TH' DUMMY HAS HIS GLIMMERS ON TH' ICE! HOW'S HE GONNA GET ON A MOVIN' PLANE!
I DON'T KNOW--YET! BUT HE SEEMS TO RECKON HE CAN, AND THAT'S ALL THAT INTERESTS ME!
W-WE'D BE TICKLED TO HAVE YOUR PROTECTION, GENTLEMEN!
THANKS! I DIDN'T AM TO SCARE YOU--BUT WHEN THE DUMMY'S LOOSE, TROUBLE IS BOUND TO POP!
3

TROUBLE CERTAINLY S BREWING FOR SOMEONE AT THAT VERY MOMENT FOR...
YOUR HOMAGE S NOT M SPLACED, BUT SAVE T FOR A LESS PRESSING MOMENT ..QUICK, ALL OF YOU! GET N FRONT OF THE MACHINE!
BOY, D.S IS A CLASSY DEA, USIN' A BLACKSMITH SHOP FOR A HIDEOUT! YER A GENIUS, BOSS!
ALL RIGHT SLUG TURN THE SWITCH
GOING DOWN.
A POWERFUL MOTOR WHINES SHRILLY..R'SING, RISING TO AN EARPERCING CRESCENDO..
HERE GOES.
AND AN AMAZING TRANSFORMATION SUDDENLY TAKES PLACE ---
FORTUNATELY I TOOK THE PRECAUTION TO MAKE SURE HE NEVER COULD AND I'LL DO THE SAME TO YOU IF YOU DONT HURRY! THERE ISN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE!
HAW HAW IF DE INVENTOR OF DE MACHINE COULD SEE WHAT WERE USING HIS INVENTION FOR
SO THAT'S THE PLAN! A REDUCING RAY, DESIGNED TO SHRINK ANY OBJECT TO ANY GIVEN DEGREE OF SMALLNESS YES YOU CAN LEAVE IT TO A HOMICIDAL HOMUNCULUS LIKE THE DUMMY TO BLAZE EVER NEWER AND MORE FIENDISHLY INGENIOUS PATHS OF CRIME BUT HOW DOES HIS BAFFLING PLUNDER-PLOT OPERATE? WE SHALL SEE..
QUICKLY NOW-- PUT US INTO THE BOX! AND DON'T JOSTLE US IN TRANSIT, OR I SHALL BASH YOUR SKULL WHEN I RETURN TO NORMAL SIZE!
I-I'LL BE CAREFUL LIKE I WAS CARRYING EGGS, DUMMY!
SOON AT THE AIRPORT EXPRESS OFFICE--
YOU CAME JUST IN TIME-- THE PLANE'S JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE!
GOOD! DIS GOTTA GET DERE IN A HURRY! AND HANDLE IT CAREFUL, WILL YA?
AND A MOMENT LATER --
HERE'S THE LAST OF THE LOAD!

MOTORS ROAR NG, THE GIANT SHIP HURTLES INTO THE SKY. AND AS THE MILES SPEED BY..
THE EFFECT OF THE RAY IS DUE TO WEAR OFF IN ONE MORE SECOND.
MOMENTS LATER, TROUBLE STRIKES!
WHA--? THE DUMMY. HOW DID YOU GET ABOARD?
MERELY DROPPED IN. NOW ALLOW ME TO ASK A QUESTION-- WHERE ARE THE SPARKLERS? TALK FAST.
AND STR KES AGAIN--THIS TIME FOR THE DUMMY.
WE'RE NOT HANDING OUT SPARKLERS TODAY! BUT MAYBE SOME STARS WILL DO.
HUH-- THE VIGILANTE.
AT THEM, FOOLS. WE'LL GIVE THEM A SPECIAL RATE FOR A DOUBLE FUNERAL.
MIGHTY NEIGHBORLY OF YOU, DUMMY. HERE'S YOUR REBATE.
IF THAT WON'T WORK, PERHAPS THIS WILL.
HEY, IT'S THEM WE'RE SUPPOSED TO FIGHT.
DON'T MIND ME. I'M JUST TRYIN' TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.
5

THIS HURTS ME MORE'N IT HURTS YOU-- OW!
OW!
FACED BY CRUSHING DEFEAT, THE GANG ABANDONS ALL HOPE OF LOOT AND MAKES A DARING GAMBLE FOR FREEDOM!...
AW, CUT IT, BOSS! LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
YOU'LL REGRET YOUR INTERFERENCE IN MY SCHEMES! SOME DAY I'LL BRING YOU DOWN TO MY SIZE, AND WHEN I DO--
WELL HOW D'YA LIKE THAT? THEY'RE GETTIN' CLEAN AWAY!
WE'LL STICK ON THEIR TRAIL, SON, NEVER FEAR!
A GOOD THING FOR YOU THAT YOU HAVE!-- AH, WE'RE IN LUCK, LANDING SO CLOSE TO THAT POLICE STATION!
OKAY, WE GOT YA, DUMMY!
HUH! WHAT'S SO LUCKY ABOUT THAT?
BECAUSE WE CAN SIMPLY APPROPRIATE ONE OF THEIR VEHICLES..WITHOUT HAVING TO BOTHER ABOUT STOPPING AND RENDING UNCONSCIOUS SOME CASUAL AUTOIST.
I CAN'T HELP TELLIN' YA ALLA TIME, BOSS--YER A BLOOMIN' GENIUS!
POLICE
TOO LATE! THE SNEAKY RATS! THEY COULD LOSE US EASY IN THOSE WOODS! WE COULDN'T SEE 'EM THROUGH THE TREES!
RECKON WE GOTTA GET DOWN THERE--
10

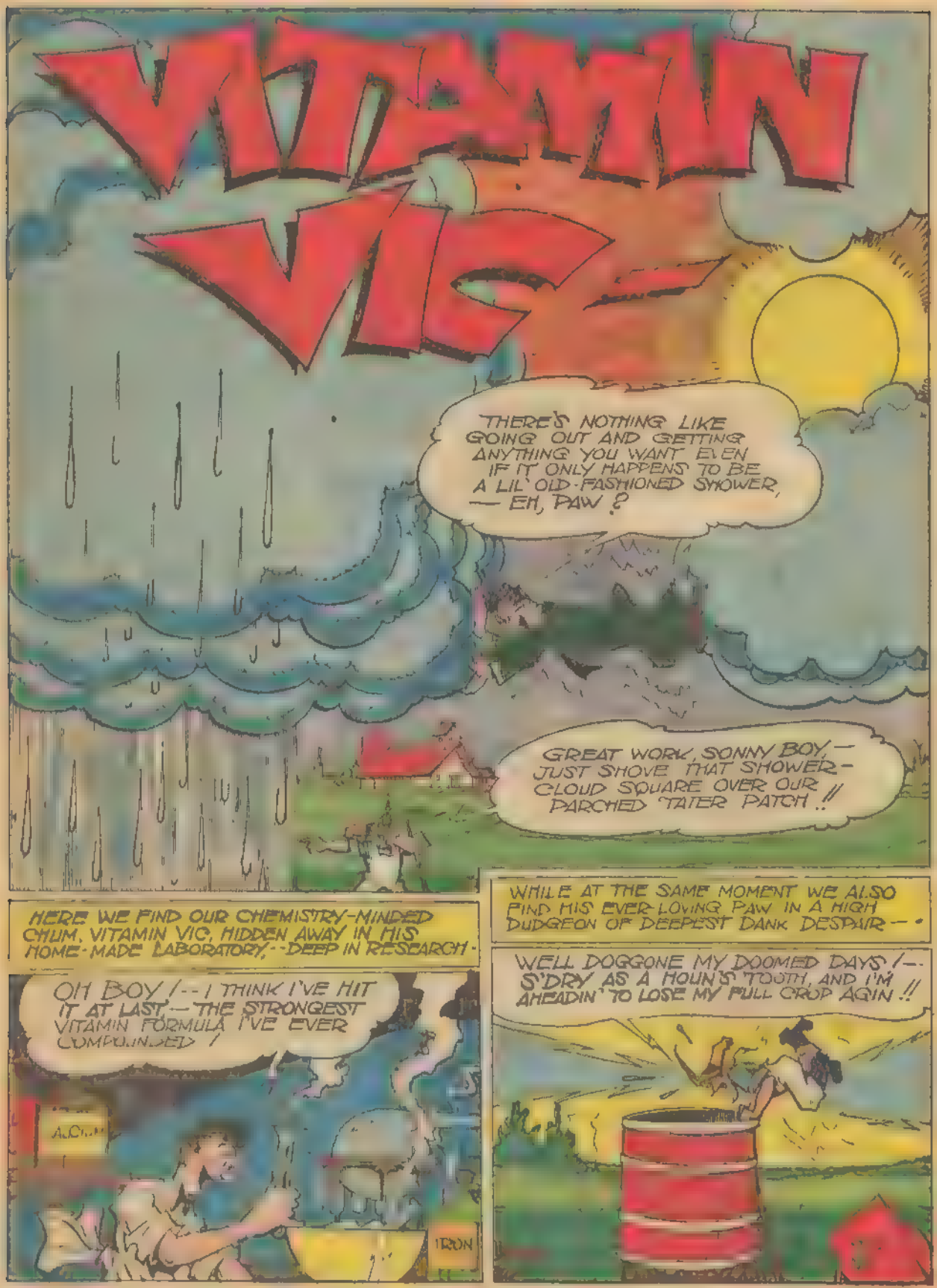
NO TIME TO LOSE!
RIGHT WITH YOU, PAL!
SORRY, OFFICER! THIS IS A PERSONAL FEUD BETWEEN US AND SOME PLUMB ONERY COYOTE!
I'LL STEP ASIDE FOR THE VIGILANTE ANY TIME JUST GO GET 'EM!
PRESENTLY, IN THE GANG CAR UP AHEAD...
HULLY CHEE DEY'RE PRACTICALLY ON OUR TAILS, DUMMY! CAN'T WE LOSE 'EM?
THAT, THIMBLE-HEAD, IS THE LAST THING I WANT TO DO! BUT WE'LL LEAD THEM A CHASE JUST SO THEY WON'T GET SUSPICIOUS.
HANG ON! WE CAN'T SLOW DOWN FOR ANYTHING!
I DON'T--MIND GOIN'--ONE WAY AT A--TIME! BUT THIS--UP AND DOWN BUSNESS IS AWFUL HARD ON A GUY!
AFTER LONG MINUTES OF DEADLY, DARING RUNS THE GRIM RACE FINALLY ENDS IN THE BLACKSMITH SHOP.
WHEEL THE MACHINE TO A POSITION FACING THE DOOR! THEN WE SHALL BE READY TO GREET OUR COMPANY PROPERLY!
AND WHEN THE COMRADES IN COMBAT RECKLESSLY BURST IN--
WELCOME, CHUMPS!
UH-UH! WE'RE BEIN' HORNSWOGGLED IN SOME WAY!
THE COLD, HEARTLESS TRAP--WITH DEATH LEERING IN WAIT FOR ITS PREY--IS SPRUNG!
WE'RE--WE'RE SHRINKING!
EXACTLY! I PROMISED THAT I WOULD BRING YOU DOWN TO MY SIZE, DIDN'T I? HA, HA!

WHEN THE MACABRE DEVICE GRINDS TO A HALT AT LAST---
AND NOW WE'LL LIVE UP TO ANOTHER PROMISE-- A SPECIAL RATE FOR A DOUBLE FUNERAL! TWO FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
YOUR OFFER S MGHTY TEMPT- N', DLMMY' SMALL OR NOT WE'LL TAKE YOU UP ON IT AND PRO- V DE THE FIRST CLSTOMER-- YOU.'
NO MATCH FOR THE NOW GIGAN- TIC GANGSTERS, THE PLUCKY PARTNERS IN PERIL ARE QUICK- LY SUBDUED AND CARRIED OUT- S.DE.
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE BEEN TAKEN IN HAND, VIG.
CACKLIN' CACTLS' THIS S BEGANNIN' TO LOOK DOWN- RGHT UNHEALTHY'
CAN'T WE STAY AND WATCH, BOSS?
WE'LL HEAR THE COMMOTION AS SOON AS TROUBLE STARTS. MEANWHILE WE HAVE SOME PLAN- NING TO DO FOR OUR NEXT JOB
OMINOUS MOMENTS TICK BY AS THE CREATURE STUDIES ITS STRANGE QUARRY ' AND THEN, SUDDENLY - - -
DON'T GET PANICKY! YOU'LL ONLY RILE HIM!
WHAT'S HE DOIN' NOW--ACTIN' AFFECTIONATE?
ABRUPTLY, THE HISSING COIL SETTLES --AND WESTERN BULLDOGG NG SKILL BRINGS THE MURDEROUS BIRD TOP- PLING TO ITS SIDE!
8

WHAT'RE Y'DO N'? WHY DON'T YA JUST USE YA ROSCOE?
THE GUNPOWDER MUST'VE BEEN REDUCED TOO! THERE WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH TO MAKE A DENT IN THIS CRITTER'S HIDE!--
PAINT
SWIFTLY, THE VIGILANT LAWMAN DRAWS A WHITE LINE FROM THE B'RD'S BEAK--
WHATCHA DOIN'?
LET GO OF H WAND YOU'LL F ND OUT--
WHAT COOKS? HE A.N'T MOV N'!
THAT'S THE WAY TO HYPNOTIZE A ROOSTER! DRAW A WHITE LINE LIKE THAT, AND HE'LL KEEP STARIN' AT IT'N, GOGGLE-EYED TILL YUH RUB T OUT.'
HOW DO WE GET BACK TO OUR RIGHT SIZES IN A HURRY, VIG?
HOLD ON TO THAT QUESTION, STUFF! I RECKON THE ANSWER IS IN THE HIDE-OUT OVER THERE!--
CAUTIOUSLY, THEY APPROACH THE LAIR OF THEIR MURDEROUS LITTLE FOE-- LITTLE NO LONGER, IN PROPORTION TO THEMSELVES!
QU ET NOW.
ARE YOU KIDDIN'? MY FEET ARE SO SMALL, I COULD DO A CLOG AND IT'D SOUND LIKE FEATHERS ON A PILLOW!
THE TRUCKS WILL BE COM.NG ALONG THE TURNP KE!
WA.T T LL I GET MY HANDS ON THAT MACHINE.'
ABRUPTLY-- THE SHRILL HUM OF THE MOTOR SPLITS THE QUIET!
WHAT..? HOW DID YOU GET AWAY FROM THAT FIGHTING ROOSTER?
THAT'S A TRICK THAT'D COME IN MIGHTY HANDY FOR YOU, AS SOON AS WE SHRINK YOU DOWN TO OUR SIZE!

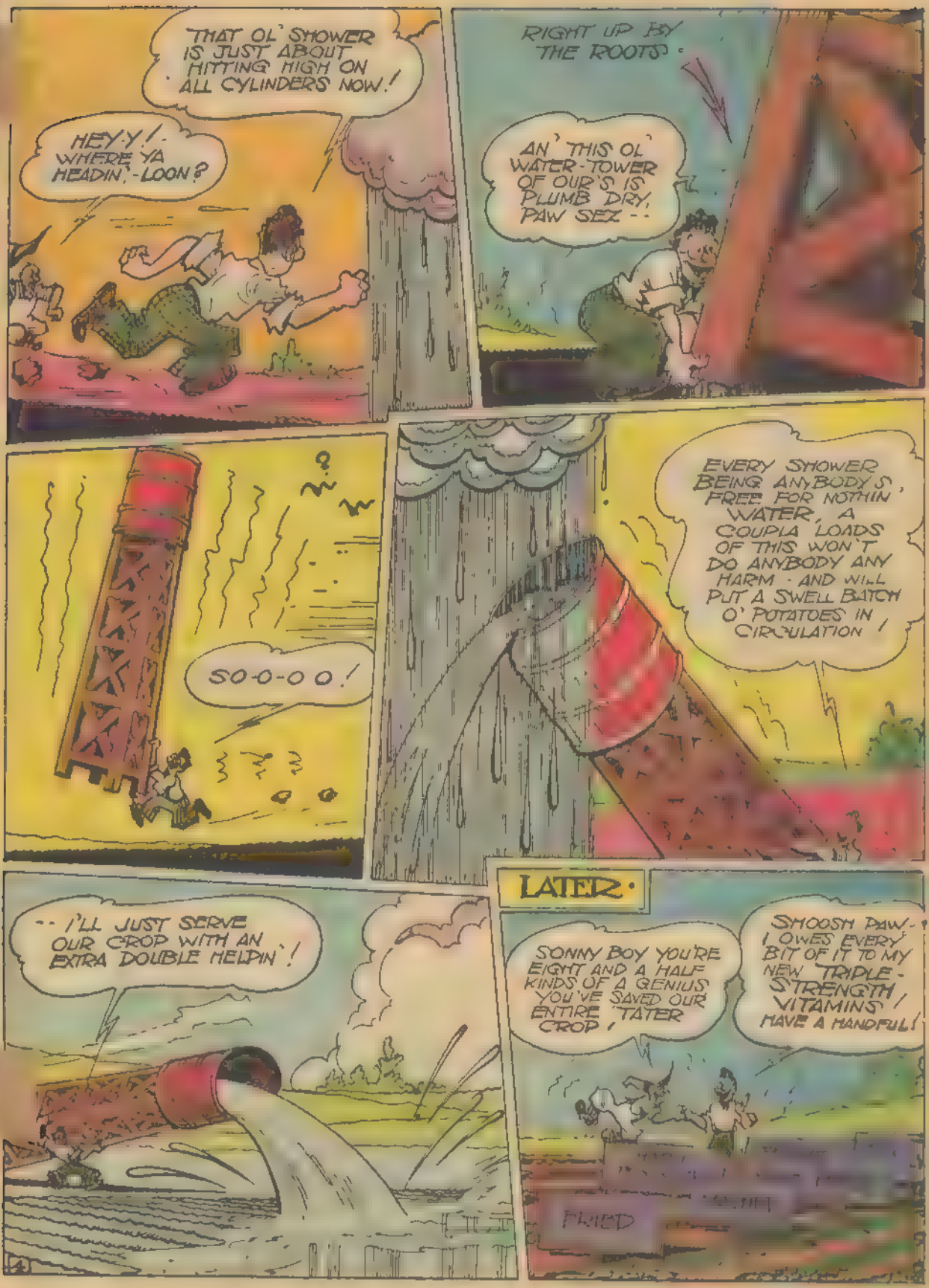
NOW THE ODDS ARE CLOSER TO EVEN!
I LIKED IT BETTER THE OTHER WAY-- OOFF!
GET THEM, YOU APES! THEY CAN'T HURT US!
MAYBE NOT, BUT WE SURE CAN TRY!
KLUK!
THAT'S RIGHT, BOYS DON'T JUST STAND THERE!
KEEP BLOWN' 'EM DOWN TILL I TURN THIS SWITCH.
TAKE YOUR TIME, PAL! I'M GETTING A BIG KICK OUTA THIS!
THE SWITCH FINALLY TURNS-- THE MOTOR GRINDS TO A HALT .. AND THEN IS PUT INTO RE-VERSE
FOILED BLAST THEM! THEY'VE RETURNED THEMSELVES TO NORMAL!
RIGHT! AND IT'LL TAKE SOME TIME BEFORE IT HAPPENS TO YOU!-- AH-- THAT PARROT CAGE IN THE CORNER GIVES ME AN IDEA!
NO! NOT RIGHT
LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS--
JUST A CAGEFUL OF JAILBIRDS!
HUH?-- WHAT'VE YOU GOT THERE?
HELP TO CAGE THE CRIMINALS OF THE AXIS BY BUYING MORE WAR BONDS AND STAMPS!

BAT MAN
10¢
?
GREEN LANTERN
WINTER ISSUE No. 7
Wonder Woman
10¢
FOR PRESIDENT
BE SURE TO GET THESE TOP FAVORITES FOR THE BEST IN COMICS!
Leading Comics
STAR
CRIMES
MUSIC
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
NOW ON SALE EVERYWHERE
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC


VITAMIN VIC
THERE'S NOTHING LIKE GOING OUT AND GETTING ANYTHING YOU WANT EVEN IF IT ONLY HAPPENS TO BE A LIL' OLD-FASHIONED SHOWER, — EH, PAW ?
GREAT WORK, SONNY BOY, — JUST SHOVE THAT SHOWER-CLOUD SQUARE OVER OUR PARCHED 'TATER PATCH !!
HERE WE FIND OUR CHEMISTRY-MINDED CHUM, VITAMIN VIC, HIDDEN AWAY IN HIS HOME-MADE LABORATORY, -- DEEP IN RESEARCH -
OH BOY /-- I THINK I'VE HIT IT AT LAST, — THE STRONGEST VITAMIN FORMULA I'VE EVER COMPOUNDED /
IRON
WHILE AT THE SAME MOMENT WE ALSO FIND HIS EVER-LOVING PAW IN A HIGH DUDGEON OF DEEPEST DANK DESPAIR — •
WELL DOGGONE MY DOOMED DAYS /-- S'DRY AS A HOUN'S TOOTH, AND I'M AHEADIN' TO LOSE MY FULL CROP AGIN !!

FIFTY FULL ACRES OF POTATOES, SWEETS INCLUDED - DRY CRISPIN ON THEIR VINES ACCOUNT O' THIS SIX WEEK DROUTH,- OH, YOU, VIC !!
YEAH, PAW ?.. WHAT'S COOKIN' NOW?
OUR HULL FIFTY ACRES OF SPUDS WILL BE COOKIN' EFFEN THEY DON'T GET SOME QUICK WATER: SO SHAKE YOUR SHANKS OUT HERE AND LEND A HAND !
MPH..MPH ! I BETTER TAKE ALONG A BATCH OF THESE NEW VITAMIN TABLETS JUST IN CASE THINGS GET STRENUOUS.-- I'M COMING, PAW !!
THROW YOUR MOTOR INTO HIGH, SMALL-FRY,--AND START PAILIN'— I AIM T'SAVE THIS CROP EVEN IF WE HAVE TO HAND-WATER EVERY INCH OF IT-!!
T'AINT HUMAN POSSIBLE, PAW, .. HOW'S ABOUT THE WATER-TANK-?
DRYER THAN SAHARY DUST, SON, GIT TER PUMPIN' !
PHEW-W !-- SHADES OF GUNGA DIN,-- ??-?-??-: HEY,- PAW,-- LOOK !!
?
?
?
2

LOOK AT THAT CLOUD BUST THAT'S SO BEAUTIFULLY DRENCHING EVERY BIT OF BUD BEASLEY'S FARM RIGHT NOW - AN' HEADIN' STRAIGHT THIS WAY !!
I SEE IT, SONNY BOY, AND IT'S HAPPENED THREE TIMES AFORE THIS MONTH ALREADY - BUT IT NEVER CROSSES OUR FENCE -- JUST GITS UP TO THE EDGE - THEN RAINS ITSELF OUT !! -
???
-- SO SNAP OUTA YOUR DAY-DREAMS AND 'KEEP PITCHIN' IT'S FATE I TELLYA, - WITH A CAPITAL 'FOOF' !
THAT'S THE QUAINTEST TRICK O' NATURE I EVER HEARD TELL OF BUT IF PAW SAYS IT'S SO - IT'S DOUBLY SO -- AND - HEY ! - WAIDAMINUTE I THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING !!
TRYING WON'T HURT. - I'LL JUST TAKE A HANDFUL OF MY NEW TRIPLE-STRENGTH VITAMINS AND GIVE THE IDEA A WHIRL-!


THAT OL' SHOWER IS JUST ABOUT HITTING HIGH ON ALL CYLINDERS NOW!
HEY-Y! - WHERE YA HEADIN', - LOON?
RIGHT UP BY THE ROOTS.
AN' THIS OL' WATER-TOWER OF OUR'S IS PLUMB DRY, PAW SEZ --
SO-O-O O!
EVERY SHOWER BEING ANYBODY'S, FREE FOR NOTHIN' WATER, A COUPLA LOADS OF THIS WON'T DO ANYBODY ANY HARM - AND WILL PUT A SWELL BATCH O' POTATOES IN CIRCULATION!
-- I'LL JUST SERVE OUR CROP WITH AN EXTRA DOUBLE HELPIN'!
LATER.
SONNY BOY YOU'RE EIGHT AND A HALF KINDS OF A GENIUS YOU'VE SAVED OUR ENTIRE 'TATER CROP!
SHOOSH PAW- I OWES EVERY BIT OF IT TO MY NEW TRIPLE-STRENGTH VITAMINS! HAVE A HANDFUL!
FRIED

CONGO BILL
"BE KIND TO ANIMALS" IS A GOOD MOTTO BOTH FOR HONEST MEN AND FOR CROOKS! AS LIMEY LOU LEARNS WHEN HE MEETS CONGO BILL, MASTER OF JUNGLE LORE, WHO HAS TO USE ALL THE PRIMITIVE KNOWLEDGE HE POSSESSES AND SOME HE DOESN'T.. TO FIGURE OUT THE MEANING OF... "KANGAROO CAPERS!"
ITS A WILD AND WOOLLY WESTERN SCENE AS CONGO BILL, GLOBE TROTTING ADVENTURER, ACCOMPANIES A FRIEND TO HIS RANCH
YESS R. BILL, FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS I GOT IN MY POCKET FOR THEM SHEEP! SOLD 'M RICH!
I HOPE YOU HANG ON TO IT, MUGGLES! THIS IS STILL A PRETTY WILD AND UNSETTLED COUNTRY!
WHERE DO YOU THINK CONGO BILL IS? TEXAS... ARIZONA... NEW MEXICO? MAYBE THIS WILL GIVE YOU A HINT...
HELLO, NELLIE! DID YOU MISS ME?
LOOKS LIKE SHE DID!
URP!

AUSTRALIA, OF COURSE!.. BUT LOOK- THE RESEMBLANCE TO OUR OWN EARLY WEST IS STRIKING—INCLUDING EVEN DESPERADOES!
'OLD UP THERE, MUGGLES! WE WANT YER BLOOMIN' SWAG!
HUH..? THESE FELLOWS REMIND ME OF OUR OLD-TIME WESTERN ROAD-AGENTS!
'ELP
BUT THEY WERE BETTER RIDERS THAN THIS FELLOW!
THEY WERE BETTER WITH THEIR FISTS, TOO!
BLIMEY, SO THIS FELLER WANTS TO FIGHT! I'LL SHOW 'IM WHAT LIMEY LOU IS LIKE WHEN 'E'S H'AROUSED!
AND THEY WERE FASTER ON THE DRAW!
BANG!
OWW, ME 'AND!
THE PET KANGAROO, FRIGHTENED BY THE COMMOTION, CHOOSES THAT MOMENT TO CUT A CAPER!
WHA..? LEGGO, NELL E, NOBODY WANTS TO HJRT YOU!
URP!
AND THE COMBAT S RESUMED...ON FOOT!
'E KNOCKED US OFF OUR 'ORSES... BUT 'E DIDN'T STAY ON SO WELL 'ISSELF!
THINGS DON'T LOOK SO GOOD NOW!

THEY CAN'T DO THAT TO NO FRIEND OF MINE!
THEY'RE DOING IT, MUGGLES, THEY'RE DOING IT!
NOT FOR LONG, BILL!
URP!
YOW!
SUDDENLY...
THEM SHEEP MUST 'AVE GOT SCARED BY ALL THE NOISE!
'AND THE BLOOMIN' FOOLS AIN'T GOT NO MORE SENSE THAN TO 'EAD RIGHT FOR IT! COME ON, YOU BLOKES!
YOU WASN'T INCLUDED IN THE H'INVITATION, YA BLIGHTER!
AAAAAA...
AS CONGO BILL COLLECTS SCATTERED WITS...
MUGGLES! WE'LL BE TRAMPLED TO DEATH!
AS THE FEAR-STRICKEN FLOCK DRAWS NEAR..
I HOPE YOU BOYS BEHAVE AS GOOD SHEEP ARE SUPPOSED TO! YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE LEADER...
... AND WHEN HE STOPS, YOU STOP! LUCKY I REMEMBERED MY BULL-DOGGING TRICKS!
W-WHAT HAPPENED?

LIMEY LOU AND THE REST OF THEM GOT AWAY! BUT AT LEAST THEY D DN'T GET YOUR MONEY!
YOU'RE WRONG, BILL ... THEY DID! THEY MJST HAVE PICKED MY POCK-ETS DURING THE F GHT.
HMM. I THOUGHT I WAS KEEPING THEM TOO BUSY FOR THAT. NOW WE HAVE THE JOB OF TRAIL-ING THEM TO GET THE MONEY BACK.
UNEXPECTEDLY...
HUH.. THAT LOOKS LIKE THEM AGA N
IT IS! AND THEY'RE AFTER NELLIE! THEY'RE SHOOT NG AT HER!
WHY IN TARNATION ARE THEY DOING THAT?
I DON'T KNOW- BUT THEY CAN'T DO THAT TO MY PET KANGAROO! COME ON CONGO BILL, WE GOTTA HELP HER!
HELP HER? SHE'S DOING ALL RIGHT WITHOUT US!
YIJ!
WOW, WHAT A RIGHT HOOK! BET SHE'D GIVE JOE LOUIS A BATTLE!
EEEEE!!!
SOCK!
BAP!
AND WHAT FOOTWORK!
OOOFFF!
4

THIS'LL DO FER THE BLARSTED BEAST!
SO YOU CAN'T BEAT NELLIE BY FAIR MEANS, HUH? YOU HAVE TO USE YOUR GUN!
WHAT YOU SHOULD REALLY DO IS USE YOUR HEAD! LIKE ME!
OWWW. ME STUMMICK!
UGH! 'E MUST 'AVE EYES IN BACK OF 'S 'EAD!
I HEARD YOU COMING, CHUM! NOW SEE IF YOU CAN HEAR...
...THIS!
YEEEOWW! 'E'S TAKIN' LESSONS FROM THE BLOOMIN' KANGAROO!
A MOMENTARY PAUSE IN THE BATTLE ... AND A PANTING LIMEY LOU ATTEMPTS TO REORGANIZE HIS RUFFIANS ...
'OLD ON, BOYS! NEVER MIND THE KANGAROO! WE'LL GET 'ER LATER! RIGHT NOW WE WANTER GANG UP ON CONGO BILL!
IF WE 'IT 'IM TOGETHER, 'E WON'T STAND A CHANCE!
SO YOU'RE GOING TO HIT ME TOGETHER, EH? AREN'T YOU AFRAID YOUR PLANS MIGHT BOOMERANG?
HUH...? BOOMERANG?
LOOK OUT, BOYS! A BOOMERANG DON'T 'IT YER IN FRONT! IT SWEEPS AROUND WHERE YER AIN'T LOOKIN', AN...
5

GUESS AGAIN, BOYS! THAT WAS JUST AN ORDINARY BRANCH!
BOOM!
AAAA...
SECONDS LATER...
MAKE A WRONG MOVE, AND I'LL SHOOT YOU WITH YOUR OWN GUN! NOW, WHERE'S MY MONEY?
WE H'AIN'T GOT H'IT!
HE'S RIGHT, MUGGLES. THAT'S WHY THEY WERE CHASING NELLIE! I'LL JUST GET A LARIAT AND SHOW YOU!
THERE'S THE MONEY! YOU MUST HAVE DROPPED IT DURING THE FIGHT! THE LITTLE ONE REACHED OUT OF THE POUCH AND PICKED UP THE ROLL AND ONE OF THE THUGS MUST HAVE SEEN HIM DO IT!
WELL, STRIKE ME PINK! BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW NELLIE HAD A LITTLE ONE WITH HER? I DIDN'T TELL YOU!
I SUSPECTED IT BECAUSE OF HER SLOWNESS IN RUNNING! OTHERWISE THOSE THUGS NEVER WOULD HAVE CAUGHT UP WITH HER! WOULD THEY, OLD GIRL?
URP!
URP!
TRAIL ALONG WITH CONGO BILL... AND RUN SMACK INTO MORE EXCITING ACTION-PACKED ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF ACTION COMICS!

FOR VICTORY
BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS
--AND BROTHER, THAT'S WHAT'S HELPING US TO BEAT YOU!!
I VOULD LIKE TO BUY SOME MYSELLUF, BLEASE!

AMERICOMMANDO
"JUSTICE IS TRUTH IN ACTION!" ...BENJAMIN DISRAELI
by BERNARD BAILEY
"TRAITOR'S BAIT!"
THERE'S NO REST FOR ANYONE UNTIL THE ENEMY IS DESTROYED!--AND AMERICOMMANDO RUNS SMACK INTO THIS GREAT TRUTH AS HE STOPS OFF IN A LITTLE INDIAN TOWN ON THE BORDER OF CHINA! FOR AMERICA'S SMARTEST TROUBLE-SHOOTER IS PLUNGED INTO THE DEADLY INTRIGUE AND TREASON THAT SURROUND THE ENEMY'S ATTEMPT TO PREVENT THE ARRIVAL OF ARMS FOR THE HEROIC SOLDIERS OF CHINA!
IN A HOTEL ROOM IN A TOWN ON THE INDIAN-CHINESE BORDER...
NOW TO GET SOME REST...AND BOY--I SURE NEED IT! WHA--!
CRASH! BANG!
I'M GOING TO TELL WHOEVER IS IN THAT ROOM TO PIPE DOWN! WHA--?
HELP!

WHAT'S GO NG ON--
WE LL SHOW YOU!
THROWING OPEN THE DOOR..
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH! I'LL SHOW YOU
WE'RE COMING!
HELP!
WHA--?
COME ON, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVE!
THE WOUNDED MAN...GOT TO TEND TO HIM!
HELP!!
CAPTAIN PING!! WHAT HAPPENED?
AMERICOM-MANDO! HELP ME .I...TRAITOR ... AAAH....
STRANGE..WAS HE TRYING TO TELL ME HE WAS A TRAITOR?
WHAT HAP-PENED, SAHIB?
BEFORE AMER COMMANDO CAN ANSWER...
IT IS CAPTAIN PING OF THE CHINESE LEND-LEASE COMM SSION. HE WAS MURDERED!

HE WAS ATTACKED BY SEVERAL THUGS, COLONEL KUNG!
THAT IS WHAT YOU CLAIM, AMERICOM-MANDO! IT IS HARD TO SAY THIS TO A MAN LIKE YOU--- BUT YOU ARE UNDER SUSPICION FOR THE MURDER!
YES... WE SHALL HAVE TO ARREST YOU, SAH B!
COME, PLEASE.
BUT MEANWHILE THE REAL ASSASSINS WILL GET AWAY!
F... THERE WERE ANY...
EVEN IF I'M FREED LATER, FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE, I'LL ALWAYS BE SUSPECTED BY OUR CHINESE ALLIES!--I MUST FIND THE REAL ASSASSINS!
THANKS FOR THE BOOST!
A BOLD MOVE!
SORRY I HAVE TO DO THIS... BUT THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO CLEAR MYSELF!
OW!
STOP.. OR WE SHOOT!
NOW I'M FREE TO FIND THE REAL MURDERERS! BUT WHERE CAN I START? FIRST I'D BETTER SEE THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER...
HE MUST HAVE GONE AROUND THE CORNER! HURRY!!
3

IT WON'T DO TO HAVE THE SENTRY SEE ME...HE'D SHOOT ON SIGHT!
I HAVE COME HERE FROM CHINA, GENERAL MAO BECAUSE NONE OF THE MUNITIONS MY DIVISION WAS TO GET HAS ARRIVED!
BUT CAPTAIN PING HAD ASSURED ME THAT THE MUNITIONS WERE DELIVERED!
THEN PING MUST HAVE BEEN A TRAITOR! DID HE HAVE RECEIPTS FOR THE MUNITIONS FROM ME?
ALAS! WE FOUND NONE AMONG HIS POSSESSIONS!
NATURALLY! YOU DIDN'T FIND THEM BECAUSE THERE WERE NONE! AND AMERICOMMANDO IS MIXED UP IN THIS SOMEHOW! HE KILLED PING TO PROTECT HIMSELF...
I CANNOT BELIEVE AMERICOMMANDO WOULD BETRAY HIS OWN COUNTRY OR CHINA! HIS RUNNING AWAY IS NO PROOF OF HIS GUILT! HE UNDOUBTEDLY HAS SOME CLUE TO THE REAL MURDERERS AND INTENDS TO CATCH THEM!
A CLUE HMM.....
WELL, GENERAL MAO, I MUST GO NOW ...BUT WE MUST CONTINUE THE SEARCH FOR THE TRAITOR!
WE SHALL, COLONEL KUNG.. WE SHALL!
I MUST HAVE A GOOD TALK WITH GENERAL MAO! BUT FIRST I'LL SEE WHAT COLONEL KUNG IS GOING TO DO!
4

AS AMERICOMMANDO IS ABOUT TO JUMP OVER THE WALL...
SEARCH THE WHOLE TOWN FOR AMERICOMMANDO! HE HAS THE RECEIPTS OF CAPTAIN PING!
YES, COLONEL!
SO KUNG BELIEVES THE RECEIPTS DO EXIST, IN SPITE OF WHAT HE TOLD GENERAL MAO! THEN THEY MUST BE IN THAT HOTEL ROOM!
SOME HOURS LATER A QUIET FIGURE STEALS THROUGH THE NIGHT...
IF EVERYTHING GOES AS PLANNED .WE'LL HAVE THE RECEIPTS AND THE TRAITORS!
...AND PAUSES UNDER A STREET LAMP..
THERE IS AMERICOMMANDO!
HE IS GOING BACK TO THE HOTEL! WE'LL FOLLOW HIM!
NOW TO GET INTO CAPTAIN PING'S ROOM!
INSIDE THE SLEEPING HOTEL...
SO FAR, SO GOOD!
WE'LL TRAP HIM INSIDE AND GET THE RECEIPTS FROM HIM!
EVIL EYES FOLLOW AMERICOMMANDO'S EVERY MOVE!
AND THEN GIVE HIM WHAT WE GAVE CAPTAIN PING!
5

NOTHING HERE! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN...
THEY WERE TOO VALUABLE TO LEAVE LYING AROUND-- SO HE MUST HAVE CARRIED THEM ON HIM...AND WHEN HE WAS ATTACKED HE HID THEM QUICKLY! NOW WHERE...
HE LAY RIGHT THERE! SO...
...HE SLIPPED THE RUG! AND THERE THEY ARE!
ALL IN GOOD ORDER! CAPTAIN PING WAS NOT A TRAITOR! THE ARMS WERE DELIVERED AND SIGNED FOR BY COLONEL KUNG!
SUDDENLY...
WHA--!
THUD!
THE KNIFE MISSED...BUT THIS GUN WON'T!
SO YOU WANT THE RECEIPTS, DO YOU?
6

A SECOND LATER...
TAKE THEM!
HUH? WHA-WHAT HIT ME!
AND I'VE GOT SOMETHING FOR YOU, TOO.
THIS'LL PUT BOTH OF YOU OUT FOR THE COUNT; NOW TO GET THOSE RECEIPTS!
AS AMERI-COMMANDO STOOPS TO PICK UP THE SCATTERED RECEIPTS...
VERY FINE EXHIBITION AMER.COMMANDO! BUT IT WILL NOT SAVE YOU!
I HAVE THE RECEIPTS NOW. NO ONE CAN SUSPECT THAT I RECEIVED THE MUNITIONS!
I KNOW YOU ARE A TRAITOR! YOU RECEIVED THE GUNS AND SOLD THEM TO THE JAPANESE!
YOU KNOW IT BUT NO ONE ELSE DOES! AND YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO TELL ABOUT IT! YOU WILL BE SHOT WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE"! THAT IS ONLY JUSTICE!
YOU LIE! AND THE TRUTH WILL CATCH UP WITH YOU!

AND AS THE TREACHEROUS KUNG IS ABOUT TO PRESS THE TRIGGER...
NOW YOU DIE! YOU-- ARRGH!!
BANG!
EXCUSE ME, BUT I HAVE LISTENED TO ENTIRE CONVERSATION!
GENERAL MAO, I THOUGHT YOU WOULD NEVER GET HERE IN TIME!
HIS IDEA OF JUSTICE WASN'T A PLEASANT ONE... SHOOTING A PRISONER IN THE BACK AND CLAIMING HE WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE!
YOU ARE TOO VALUABLE AS BAIT, AMER COMMANDO...TO LET TRAITOR RAT EAT YOU!
JUSTICE IS TRUTH IN ACTION, MY FRIEND!
AND FOR COLONEL KUNG...TRUTH IN ACTION WILL BE A FIRING SQUAD!
BERNARD BAILY

LEADING No.9 NOW ON SALE!

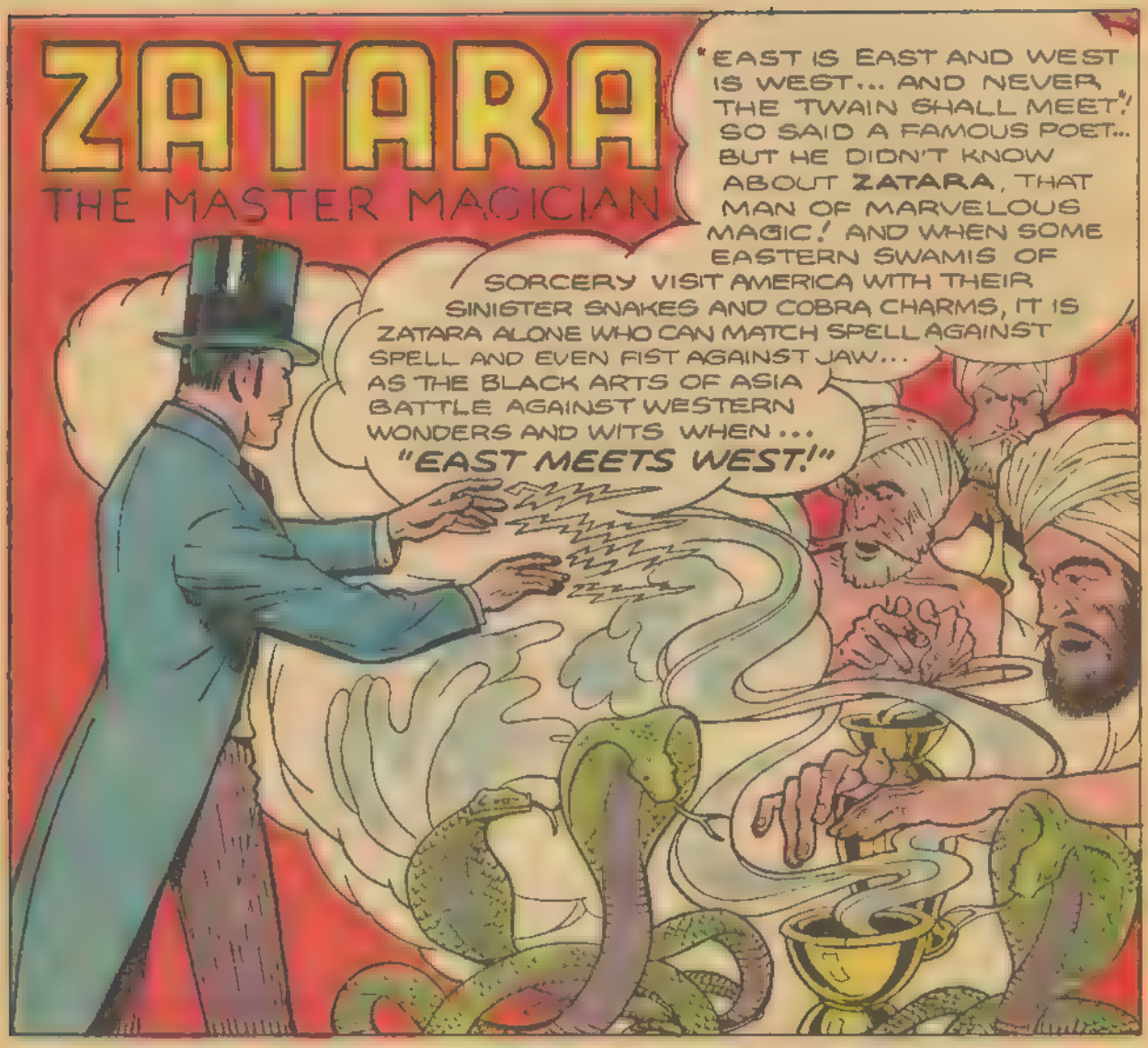
BETTER GET YOUR COPY EARLY! -- IT'S A FAST SELLER!

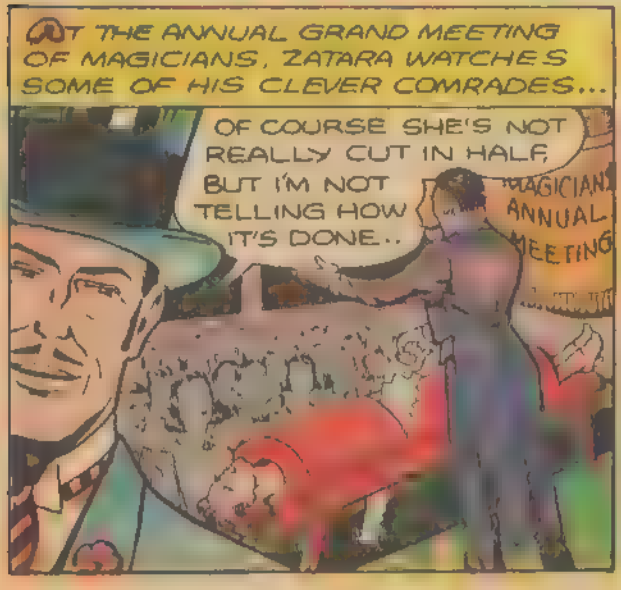
Leading Comics

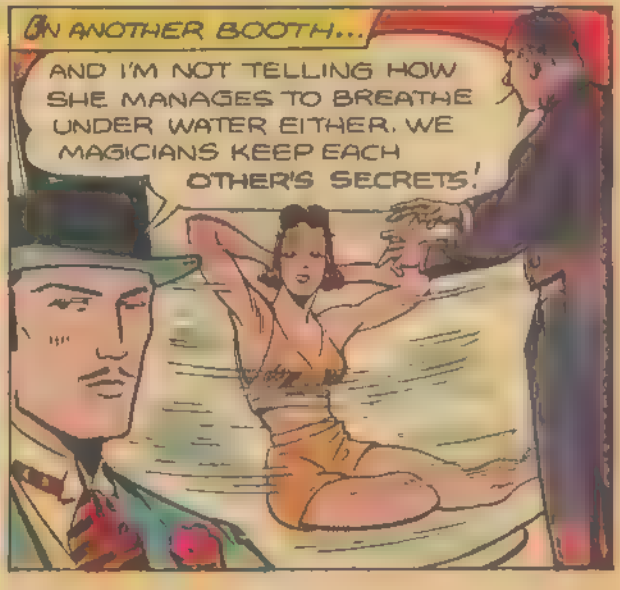
SURE -- I KNOW WE'RE UPSIDE DOWN! THAT'S BECAUSE WE'VE BEEN TURNING THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD OVER TRYING TO FIND A COPY OF THE LATEST ISSUE OF LEADING COMICS!

-- AN' NOT A COPY LEFT ANYWHERE!

HANDY ANDY
HOWDY FOLKS!
HOW TO MAKE IT AT HOME YOURSELF IN YOUR LEISURE HOURS!
FIRST TAKE THREE SIX-FOOT STRIPS OF LUMBER (PREFERABLY SOUTHERN PINE) NAIL TOGETHER IN A TRIANGLE (SEE ILLUSTRATION)
NEXT MORTAR THREE TIERS OF FACING BRICKS IN BASE OF TRIANGLE LEAVING A TWO BRICK OPENING IN CENTER FOR DRAINAGE
LA DA DE DAH!
THE OPENING
NOW ATTATCH FOUR TIRED WHEELS TO THE CORNERS OF THE BASE FOR EASY MOBILITY
OH-DA DE-DA-DAH!
NEXT AND THIS IS IMPORTANT FILL IN THE TRIANGLE WITH ALL THE DEAD WEIGHT YOU CAN DAG YOUR HANDS ON
DA-DA DEE DAH!
THE FINISHING TOUCH A SOFT TINKLING BUZZER IS NOW ATTACHED FOR SOUND-RECORDING PURPOSES, NO DOUBT, -- COMPLETING THE JOB -
OH-DOE DEE-OH-DOE-!
BUT SHOULD ONE BE ULTRA-FANCY IN ONE'S IDEAS, THE FINISHED PRODUCT CAN STILL BE EQUIPPED WITH PARKING LIGHTS
DAH DAH DEE-DAH!
RESULT - A PERFECT PORTABLE HOME MADE DOOR STOP
M'M THAT'S SWELL, WE'LL GET A PATENT!


ZATARA
THE MASTER MAGICIAN
"EAST IS EAST AND WEST IS WEST... AND NEVER THE TWAIN SHALL MEET"! SO SAID A FAMOUS POET... BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ZATARA, THAT MAN OF MARVELOUS MAGIC! AND WHEN SOME EASTERN SWAMIS OF SORCERY VISIT AMERICA WITH THEIR SINISTER SNAKES AND COBRA CHARMS, IT IS ZATARA ALONE WHO CAN MATCH SPELL AGAINST SPELL AND EVEN FIST AGAINST JAW... AS THE BLACK ARTS OF ASIA BATTLE AGAINST WESTERN WONDERS AND WITS WHEN ... "EAST MEETS WEST!"


AT THE ANNUAL GRAND MEETING OF MAGICIANS, ZATARA WATCHES SOME OF HIS CLEVER COMRADES...
OF COURSE SHE'S NOT REALLY CUT IN HALF, BUT I'M NOT TELLING HOW IT'S DONE..
MAGICIANS ANNUAL MEETING

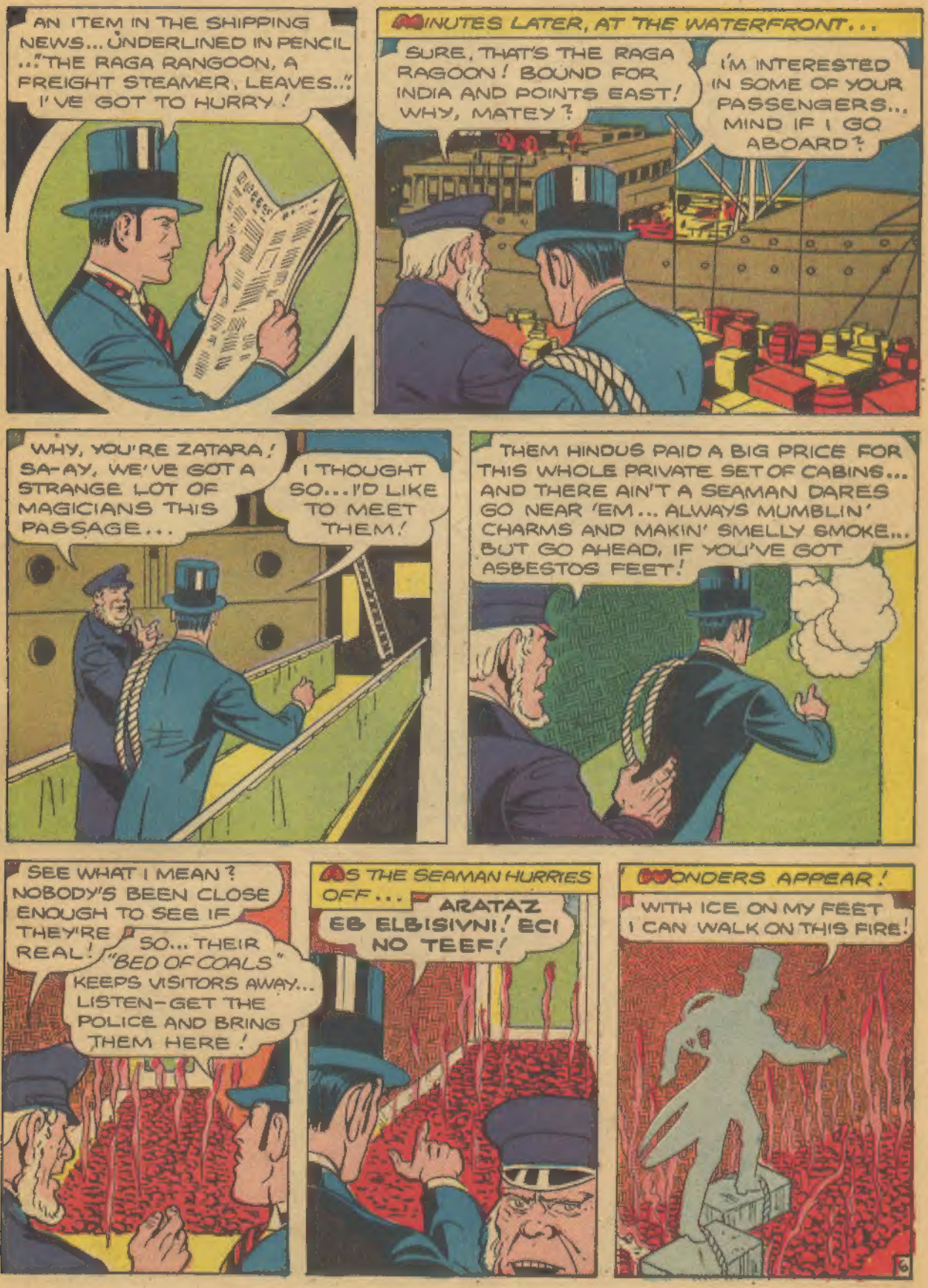

ON ANOTHER BOOTH...
AND I'M NOT TELLING HOW SHE MANAGES TO BREATHE UNDER WATER EITHER. WE MAGICIANS KEEP EACH OTHER'S SECRETS!

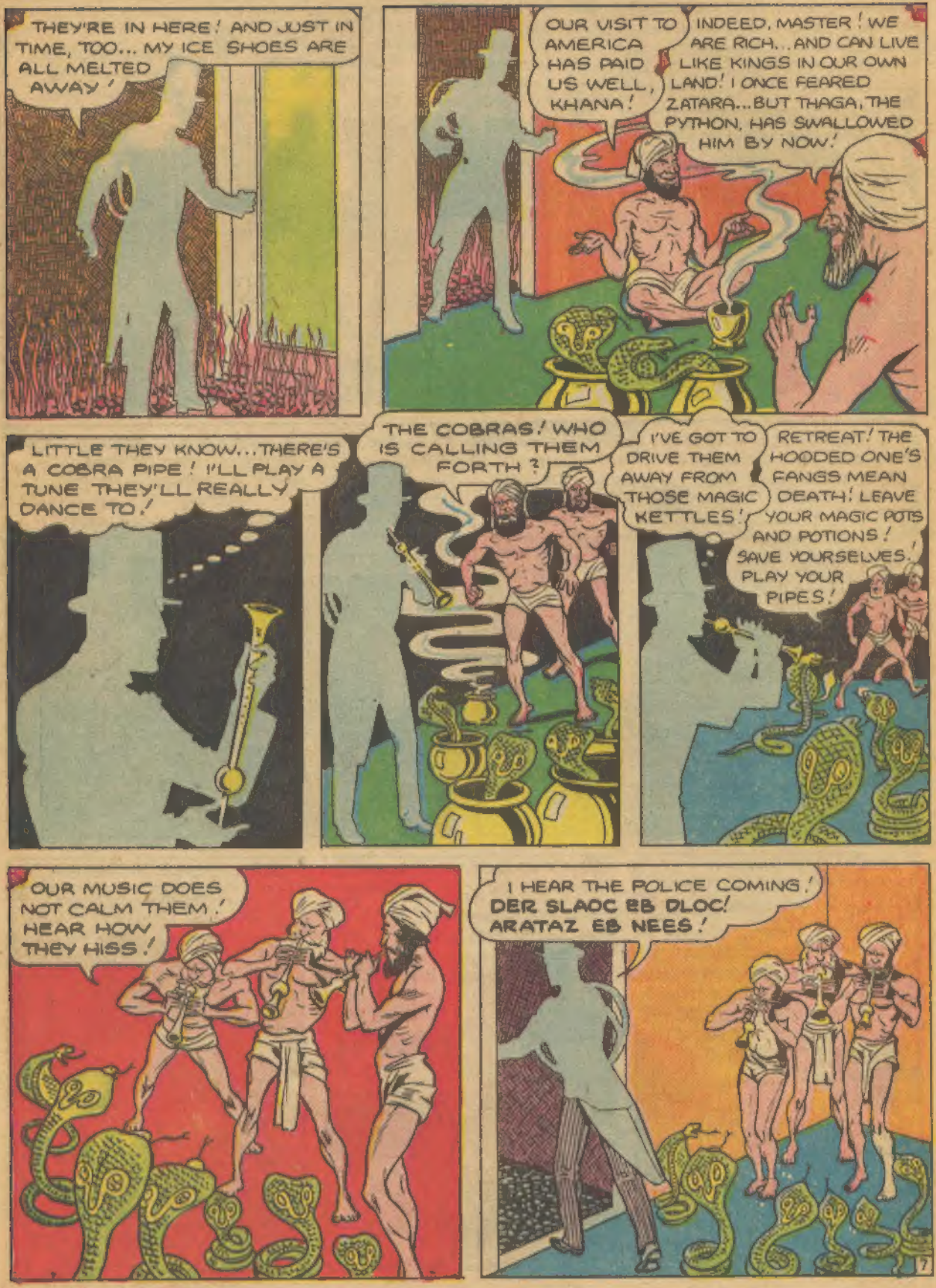
BUT MAYBE I'LL HAVE A LITTLE FUN OF MY OWN! NAMOW, NRUT OT HSIF!*
*READ ZATARA'S MAGIC WORDS BACKWARDS!
BEFORE THE AMAZED MAGICIAN...
EGNAHC KCAB!
AFTER ANOTHER LIGHTNING CHANGE... ZATARA IS ACCLAIMED MASTER OF MASTERS!
THANK GOODNESS, IT'S ANNA AGAIN!
THAT WAS GREAT ZATARA! YOU'RE PRINCE OF OUR PROFESSION!
THOSE HINDUS OVER THERE MIGHT QUESTION THAT I'M AFRAID
THAT'S TRUE! THEIR STUFF IS CERTAINLY MYSTIFYING!
LET'S GO OVER FOR A LOOK!
NOT ME, ZATARA! LEGITIMATE MAGIC IS ONE THING, BUT WHEN IT COMES TO BLACK MAGIC, YOU CAN COUNT ME OUT!
HMM! MAYBE I CAN EXCHANGE SOME SECRETS! I'VE NEVER SEEN THE EQUAL OF COM. I'VE NEVER DONE BETTER
AND THEY'RE LEARNED THE ART OF WALKING ON AIR! I MUST MEET THEM

BUT AS ZATARA STEPS FORWARD IN FRIENDLY GREETING...
THEY DON'T WANT TO MEET ME! THEY'VE SET UP A WALL OF FIRE AGAINST ME!
GOT TO GET OUT! ERIF EKAM HTAP!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE INTRUDED ON THEM...MAYBE THE FAR EAST DOESN'T WANT TO MEET THE DISTANT WEST!
WAS THE FIRE REAL... ARE YOU HURT?
THEY GIVE ME THE CREEPS!
FORGET IT! MAYBE THEY WERE JUST REHEARSING A NEW ILLUSION!
NEXT MORNING... A CALL FOR AID FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE!
WALLS OF FIRE? AND A JEWEL ROBBERY? I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!
THEY INSIST THERE WAS SOME SINISTER MAGIC USED! SO I KNEW YOU'D BE INTERESTED, ZATARA! YOU CAN MEET US AT THE HIGHMAN MANSION!
MINUTES LATER...
AND THE FLAMING WALLS SPUN ROUND.. AND I SEEMED TO SEE SNAKES CRAWLING ABOUT... AND I HEARD WEIRD MUSIC.. AND MY SAFE IS LOOTED
PERHAPS NOT, OFFICER!
THE GUY'S NUTS, CHIEF

ZATARA'S EYES PICK OUT THE TINIEST CLUE...
WHAT'S THIS? A SNAKE SCALE, OF THE DEADLY COBRA!
YOU KNOW, MR HIGHMAN'S STORY CASTS SUSPICION ON EVERY MAGICIAN AT YOUR MEETING!
WE'VE GOT TO PREVENT THAT! I'LL LOOK INTO THIS PERSONALLY, CAPTAIN!
BUT I DID SEE FIRE AND I'M NOT CRAZY! AND I DON'T TRUST ANY MAGICAN! THEY'RE TOO TRICKY!
THE GREAT ZATARA HAS PROMISED TO INVESTIGATE
SNAKE-SCALES AND WALLS OF FIRE..? OF COURSE NOW I REMEMBER!
ON A FLASH... BACK TO THE MEETING OF MAGICIANS...
I CAN'T BE SURE I'M RIGHT.. BUT ANYWAY... HERE'S WHERE THE WEST LOOKS TO THE EAST AGAIN! SLLAW EB SSALG!
SO MY HINDU FRIENDS ARE LEAVING SUDDENLY... BUT WHAT ARE THOSE OTHERS PACKING AWAY?
JUST AS I THOUGHT! AMERICAN MONEY AND LOOT! LLAW RETTAHS!
EVEN FOREIGN MAGICIANS HAVE TO OBEY THE LAWS IN THESE UNITED STATES... SO YOU'LL HAVE TO HAND THAT OVER...
KATALAWEE ZATARA!
4

YES, I'M ZATARA ! AND THERE'S NO USE BREWING ANY CHARMS ! YOUR CAREER OF CRIME IS ENDED
THAGA ! SLOOM !
HIDDEN HIGH IN THE RAFTERS, A GREEN MENACE OBEYS ITS EASTERN MASTER !
THAGA ! HHAGA !
AND A LIVING PRISON DROPS DOWN !
WHA...? A MONSTER PYTHON !
THAGA WILL HOLD... AND CRUSH ! WE GO...
SLOWLY, SURELY,..THE CRUSHING DEATH COILS CLOSER ABOUT ZATARA !
MY HANDS ! MY EYES... THEY'RE COVERED ! I'M HELPLESS !
IF ONLY I COULD SEE ITS EYES ! I MIGHT TRY...
AT LAST ZATARA GAZES INTO COLD, GLASSY DEPTHS !
NOHTYP EB EPOR !
STILL LONG, ROUND COILS... BUT HARMLESS NOW UNDER ZATARA'S MAGIC !
I'LL DROP YOU OFF LATER AT THE CITY ZOO... BUT WHERE HAVE YOUR MASTERS GONE ?
15

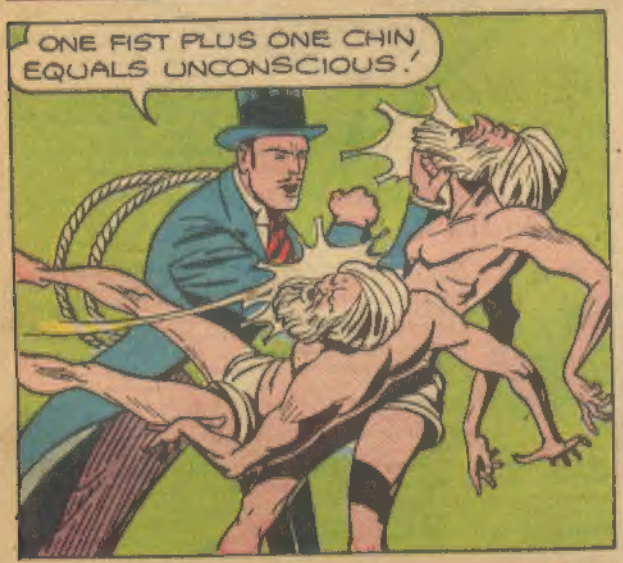

AN ITEM IN THE SHIPPING NEWS... UNDERLINED IN PENCIL ..."THE RAGA RANGOON, A FREIGHT STEAMER, LEAVES..." I'VE GOT TO HURRY!
MINUTES LATER, AT THE WATERFRONT...
SURE, THAT'S THE RAGA RAGOON! BOUND FOR INDIA AND POINTS EAST! WHY, MATEY?
I'M INTERESTED IN SOME OF YOUR PASSENGERS... MIND IF I GO ABOARD?
WHY, YOU'RE ZATARA! SA-AY, WE'VE GOT A STRANGE LOT OF MAGICIANS THIS PASSAGE...
I THOUGHT SO... I'D LIKE TO MEET THEM!
THEM HINDUS PAID A BIG PRICE FOR THIS WHOLE PRIVATE SET OF CABINS... AND THERE AIN'T A SEAMAN DARES GO NEAR 'EM... ALWAYS MUMBLIN' CHARMS AND MAKIN' SMELLY SMOKE... BUT GO AHEAD, IF YOU'VE GOT ASBESTOS FEET!
SEE WHAT I MEAN? NOBODY'S BEEN CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE IF THEY'RE REAL!
SO... THEIR "BED OF COALS" KEEPS VISITORS AWAY... LISTEN—GET THE POLICE AND BRING THEM HERE!
AS THE SEAMAN HURRIES OFF...
ARATAZ EB ELBISIVNI! ECI NO TEEF!
WONDERS APPEAR!
WITH ICE ON MY FEET I CAN WALK ON THIS FIRE!
6


THEY'RE IN HERE! AND JUST IN TIME, TOO... MY ICE SHOES ARE ALL MELTED AWAY!
OUR VISIT TO AMERICA HAS PAID US WELL, KHANA!
INDEED, MASTER! WE ARE RICH... AND CAN LIVE LIKE KINGS IN OUR OWN LAND! I ONCE FEARED ZATARA... BUT THAGA, THE PYTHON, HAS SWALLOWED HIM BY NOW!
LITTLE THEY KNOW... THERE'S A COBRA PIPE! I'LL PLAY A TUNE THEY'LL REALLY DANCE TO!
THE COBRAS! WHO IS CALLING THEM FORTH?
I'VE GOT TO DRIVE THEM AWAY FROM THOSE MAGIC KETTLES!
RETREAT! THE HOODED ONE'S FANGS MEAN DEATH! LEAVE YOUR MAGIC POTS AND POTIONS! SAVE YOURSELVES! PLAY YOUR PIPES!
OUR MUSIC DOES NOT CALM THEM! HEAR HOW THEY HISS!
I HEAR THE POLICE COMING! DER SLAOC EB DLOC! ARATAZ EB NEES!
7

'TIS ZATARA! HE HURLS OUR CHARMS TO THE OCEAN DEPTHS! WE ARE LOST!
IF ONLY HE WOULD SAVE US FROM THE COBRAS!

LET THIS EVIL MAGIC BE LOST FOREVER IN THE WATER'S WAVES AND CAVES!

GARBOC EB DROC!
THE COBRAS ARE BECOMING CORD... RUSH 'ZATARA! WE OUTNUMBER HIM!


ONE FIST PLUS ONE CHIN EQUALS UNCONSCIOUS!

THE POLICE RUSH IN OVER THE BEDS OF BLACK COAL ZATARA HAS MADE!
THEM BURNING COALS IS GONE!
ZATARA'S SHOWING THEM SOME PRETTY ROUGH MAGIC!

ON A FEW MOMENTS...
...AND THEY WERE USING POWERFUL EASTERN MAGIC TO SCARE AND CONFUSE THEIR VICTIMS! BUT THEIR MAGIC AND COBRAS ARE HARMLESS NOW! AND HERE ARE THE VALUABLES OF A SCORE OF ROBBERIES!

LATER... AT THE CITY ZOO...
FINE SPECIMENS! AND WHEN YOU TOSSED THEM IN... I COULD HAVE SWORN THEY WERE ONLY ROPE AND CORD!
WELL..MAYBE YOU WERE JUST SEEING THINGS!

Captain Tootsie and the SECRET WEAPON!

BY ROD REED AND C. C. BECK

ROLLO REMEMBERS- WHEN IN DANGER, TOOT FOR TOOTSIE!

NOW VE NEFFER FIND OUT VOT ISS DER SECRET VEPPON!
SHUCKS! NOW THAT YOU CAN'T USE IT, WE'LL TELL YOU OUR SECRET WEAPON---IT'S EXTRA ENERGY!
AND WE GET IT FROM EATING TOOTSIE ROLLS!
TOOTSIE ROLLS

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